From Top to Bottom: The Front Line of Infection Control

POST TEST

1. T or F. Some infectious microorganisms can live on surfaces for days, weeks, even months.

2. According to the CDC, the number one way to prevent the spread of potentially infectious microorganisms is:
   A. Disinfecting everything with bleach
   B. Hand hygiene with soap and water or alcohol based hand rub
   C. Cleaning rooms every day
   D. Wearing gloves to clean rooms

3. The following can be said about cleaning:
   A. Cleaning is the removal of visible soil and dirt using mechanical action such as scrubbing
   B. Cleaning includes removing trash and soiled laundry
   C. Visible soil, dirt and organic matter must be removed before the disinfection process
   D. All of the above

4. The following can be said about surface disinfection:
   A. It is the process of killing (inactivating) all harmful pathogens on environmental surfaces that can cause illness
   B. Environmental Services technicians work with high-level EPA registered hospital grade disinfectants to fight various organisms
   C. Many facilities use broad-spectrum germicides and one-step products that both clean and disinfect
   D. All of the above

5. If there is a body fluid spill in a patient care area:
   A. Place a cloth over the spill until you are able to clean it up
   B. Use disposable absorbent materials to clean up the spill
   C. Treat the area with an EPA registered disinfectant solution for the recommended contact time and allow to air dry
   D. All except A
POST TEST

6. The following can be said about wearing gloves except:
   A. Latex free disposable gloves should always be worn while cleaning and disinfecting
   B. Utility gloves are the best gloves to use for cleaning and disinfecting
   C. Don’t wear any gloves that are torn, punctured, discolored, cracked or peeling
   D. Never wear any gloves from room to room

7. When entering rooms under Airborne Precautions, you are required to wear which type of PPE?
   A. A particulate respirator or a powered air purifying respirator (PAPR)
   B. A disposable gown
   C. A surgical mask
   D. Gloves

8. T or F. Dispose of all used PPE, including respirators or PAPRs, before leaving the patient room in the appropriate container.

9. There are three basic types of waste in a hospital facility:
   A. Patient room waste, infectious waste, and office waste
   B. Patient room waste, procedure/operating room waste, and laboratory waste
   C. The general waste stream, the regulated medical waste stream and the hazardous waste stream
   D. White trash bag waste, red trash bag waste, and black trash bag waste

10. T or F. In general, when diluting disinfectants, using more chemical in the solution does not make it work better.
**From Top to Bottom: The Front Line of Infection Control**

**ANSWERS**

1. **True.** Some infectious microorganisms can live on surfaces for days, weeks, even **months**, where they may be touched and carried by healthcare workers, patients and visitors to other parts of the facility.

2. **B. Hand hygiene with soap and water or alcohol based hand rub.** A is incorrect as not everything should be disinfected with bleach, nor is it promoted by the CDC as the most effective way to prevent the transmission of pathogens. C and D are incorrect, as while cleaning everyday and wearing gloves are important, proper and consistent hand hygiene is the most important thing a person can do to prevent transmission.

3. **D. All of the above.**

4. **C. Many facilities use broad-spectrum germicides and one-step products that both clean and disinfect.** A is not correct as surface disinfection is the process of killing most pathogens, but not spores. B is incorrect as ES technicians work with low to intermediate-level EPA registered hospital grade disinfectants, with quaternary ammonium compounds being the most commonly used disinfectants. High level disinfectants are used for sterilization of instruments.

5. **D. All except A.** Body spills must be cleaned up as soon as possible because they are potentially infectious. Hiding the spill with cloths does not remove the germs that can be spread to others.

6. **B. Utility gloves are the best gloves to use for cleaning and disinfecting.** The use of utility gloves is not recommended as they are difficult to keep clean and may transport organisms from room to room.

7. **A. A particulate respirator or a powered air purifying respirator (PAPR).** You are required to wear a surgical mask to enter Droplet Precautions, and a gown and gloves to enter rooms under Contact Precautions.
ANSWERS

8. **False.** You should remove all PPE before leaving the patient room, *except* for respirators or PAPRs, which should be removed *after* leaving the patient room and *after* the door to the room is closed.

9. **C. The general waste stream, the regulated medical waste stream and the hazardous waste stream.** General waste includes trash such as newspapers from patient rooms; medical waste includes items contaminated with blood or body fluids; and hazardous waste includes drugs used for chemotherapy and certain chemicals used in the laboratory.

10. **True.** Always dilute disinfectants according to specific dilution proportions. More chemical does *not* make it work better and may damage surfaces and/or cause injury – always follow manufacturer recommendations.