Cleaning & Disinfecting

Keep the healthcare environment safe by stopping the spread of infection



INFECTIOUS AGENT

- Bacteria
- Virus
- Fungi
- Parasite



Immunocompromised

SUSCEPTIBLE HOST

Anyone, but especially:



PORTAL OF ENTRY

- Mouth
- Nose
- Eyes
- Cuts in skin



Break the chain

All six must be present for transmission to occur

TRANSMISSION MODE

- Direct contact
- Indirect contact
- Vectors (e.g., insects)



RESERVOIR

Body

• Skin, blood, gut, respiratory tract

Environment

Surfaces, dust, devices



PORTAL OF EXIT

- Coughing
- Sneezing
- Body fluids
- Stool



CLEANING

Removing germs and visible matter from a surface You can clean without disinfecting



- Don't use dirty tools
- Wear and discard PPE as necessary

Choose the right product

- Soaps, sanitizers, disinfectants provide different levels of safety
- Check labels and refer to facility protocols



DISINFECTING

Killing and removing germs from a surface You cannot disinfect without cleaning first

Identify areas

- Multi-use medical equipment
- Devices
- High traffic areas
- Surfaces frequently touched

Follow label directions

- Read hazard & safety warnings
- Follow contact time instructions
- Use the right product for the right surface and germ (if known)



