

Think About It!

When facilities track infection rates, they can identify problems and track progress toward stopping infections.

How are you tracking infection rates?

Environmental Cleaning & Infection Prevention

Are environmental factors affecting your infection rate? Use these probing questions as part of your QAPI program to assess current environmental cleaning practices.

1. How do environmental service staff know which residents are on transmission precautions?
2. What products are used to clean/disinfect rooms for residents on transmission precautions? (e.g., sporicidal agent, EPA disinfectant, microfiber cloths, etc.)?
3. What is our process for daily cleaning of all high-touch items?
4. Does our nursing home have dedicated equipment for use with residents on transmission precautions (e.g., blood pressure cuff, Hoyer lift pad, etc.)?
5. Do we have a process to audit the adequacy of our daily and terminal environmental cleaning practices (e.g., checklists, ATP, fluorescent markers, swab, etc.)?
6. Are we sharing audit results with staff in a non-punitive way?

Share these tips with your team:

1. CDC Environmental Checklist for Monitoring Terminal Cleaning, <http://bit.ly/2KrNWrb>
2. Options for Evaluating Environmental Cleaning <http://bit.ly/2WZOL2w>
3. Simple Strategies for Preventing Infections: Personal Protective Equipment, <http://bit.ly/2LFk62b>

Simple Strategies to Prevent Infections