



**NHS**  
Birmingham  
Community Healthcare  
NHS Foundation Trust



# Outbreak Management



# Outbreak Definition

**(a) Two or more associated cases**

**(b) A greater than expected rate of infection compared with the usual background rate for the place and time where the outbreak has occurred.**



**May be defined in one of the following ways:**

**(c) A single case for certain rare diseases such as diphtheria, rabies, viral haemorrhagic fever or polio.**

# Objectives of Outbreak Management



**To prevent harm  
to residents and  
staff**

**stop further spread and  
prevent recurrence**

**prevent  
recurrence**



*Best Care  
Healthy Communities*

# Outbreak Management

An early, rapid response to an outbreak within a health care setting is the key to its control.

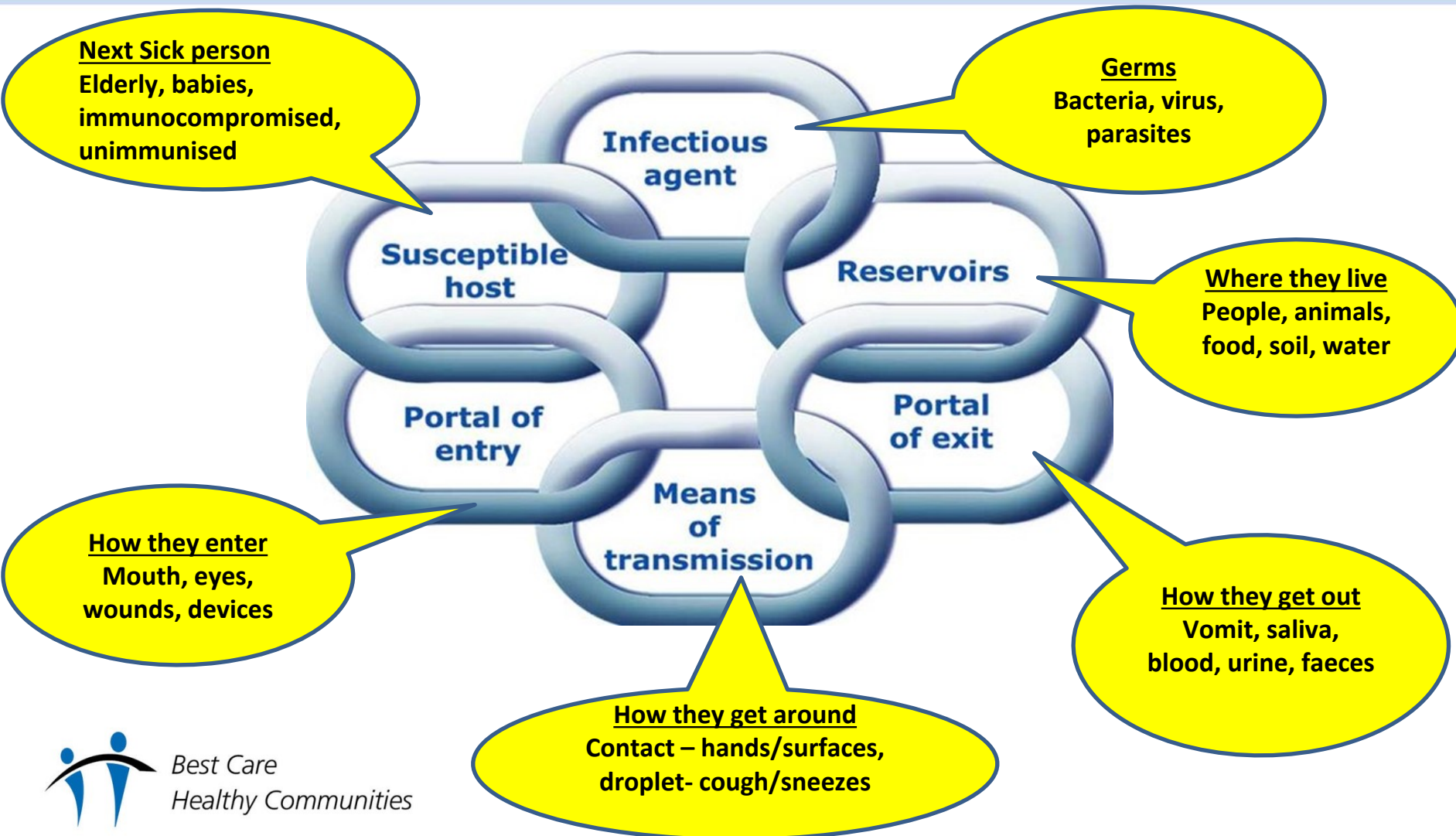
Report UKHSA/IPC

While it is not possible to completely prevent outbreaks, standard precautions can minimise its effects

## Hand-washing technique with soap and water



# Chain of Infection



# Control measures

Limitation of movement of clients/staff/none sharing across homes

Immediate cleaning + environmental decontamination

Scrupulous hand washing/gel

Isolating/Confining of ill clients

PPE

Exclusion of ill staff e.g 10 days isolation

Restrict visiting



# Control Measures



**Allocate staff to duties in either affected or non-affected areas of the home.**

**Ensure all staff are aware of the situation and how the organism is transmitted**

**Ensure all staff are aware of the work exclusion policy and the need to go off duty at first symptoms**



# Control Measures

## Environment

Intensify cleaning ensuring affected areas are cleaned and disinfected. Toilets used by affected clients must be included

Remove exposed foods, e.g. fruit bowls, and prohibit eating and drinking by staff within clinical/care areas

Decontaminate frequently-touched surfaces with detergent and disinfectant containing 1000ppm available chlorine\*



Ventilate room-opening windows at regular intervals



# Control Measures

## Hand hygiene

**Wash/gel hands  
frequently**

**Decontaminate  
hands as per WHO  
5 moments**



# Outbreak Control Measures

## Equipment

- Use single use equipment wherever possible  
Or  
Single patient use equipment.
- Decontaminate all reusable equipment immediately after use



## Spillages

- Wearing PPE, • clean spillages promptly



## Linen

- Discard linen from the closed area in a water soluble (alginate) bag and then a secondary bag



# Decontamination of Equipment

Use single use equipment where possible

Enhanced cleaning of the care environment

Use disposable cloths and dispose of immediately after use.

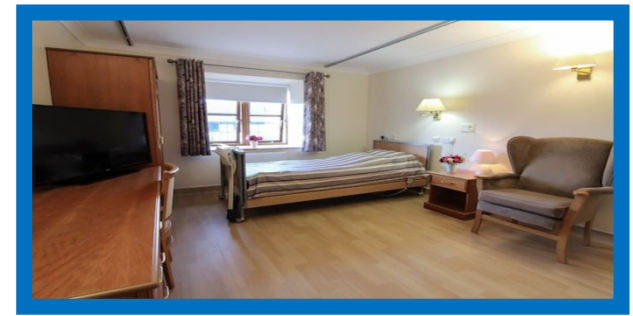
Designated mop and bucket for isolated clients and toilets. Dispose of /launder mop head following enhanced clean.

General cleaning of the environment to be carried out at least twice daily, all washable surfaces should be cleaned with detergent and water then disinfected with 1,000ppm available chlorine, paying particular attention to bedside tables/lockers, horizontal surfaces, chairs, door handles walking aids, patient call line, toilets, toilet flushes and taps

# Terminal clean

**Room Should be left for at least 1 Hour before cleaning takes place** (to allow time for particles to settle).

- **All linen placed into a red alginate bag then into a secondary laundry bag (including any unused linen).**
- When a client is symptom-free or discharged, all washable surfaces should be cleaned with detergent and water then disinfected with 1,000ppm available chlorine.
- Clinical/care items must be cleaned prior to removal from room.
- Any toiletries, unwanted patient items or disposal items must be disposed of as clinical waste even if unopened (e.g. sterile dressing packs).
- Hanging of laundered curtains or new disposable curtains should be performed following cleaning.





# Terminal Clean



# Waste disposal

- **All waste to be disposed of as cat B (orange bagged waste)** Health Technical Memorandum 07-01: Safe management of healthcare waste.

May need to minimise risk depending on waste consignments



# So.....Did you take Notes!

Eliza Jane Lillington – Cardiff  
Infirmary July 1887



Rules to be observed in the management  
of Epidemics or contagious diseases.  
more especially for private nurses

- 1<sup>st</sup> - The patient should be at once separated from all other inmates of the house leaving the room devoted to him & his attendant.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> All bed curtains, hanging carpets articles of dress in wardrobes &c and all unnecessary furniture to be removed
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Room well ventilated windows partly open at the top chimney free if weather or size of room permit a fire burning. The floor be sprinkled daily with disinfectant fluid, and thoroughly cleaned
- 4<sup>th</sup> The door should be kept closed and a wet sheet of a solution of Carbolic acid chloride of lime or Condy fluid hung



Best Care  
Healthy Communities