



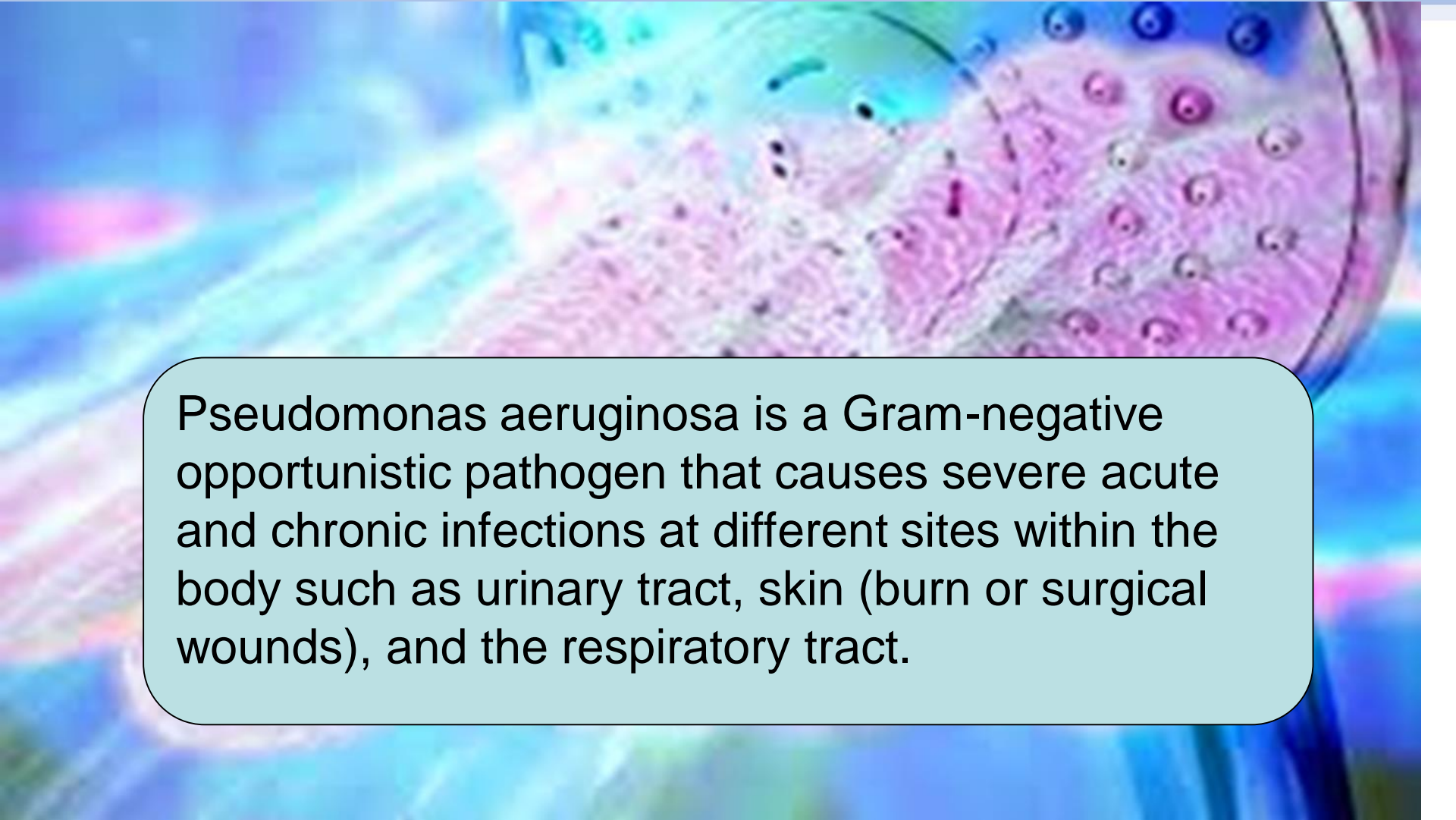
Better Care: Healthier Communities

Birmingham Community Healthcare **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust

Water Quality Awareness



Pseudomonas Aeruginosa



Pseudomonas aeruginosa is a Gram-negative opportunistic pathogen that causes severe acute and chronic infections at different sites within the body such as urinary tract, skin (burn or surgical wounds), and the respiratory tract.

Pseudomonas Aeruginosa

Optimum temp for growth 37° C also grows at temperatures as high as 42° C

Opportunistic pathogen

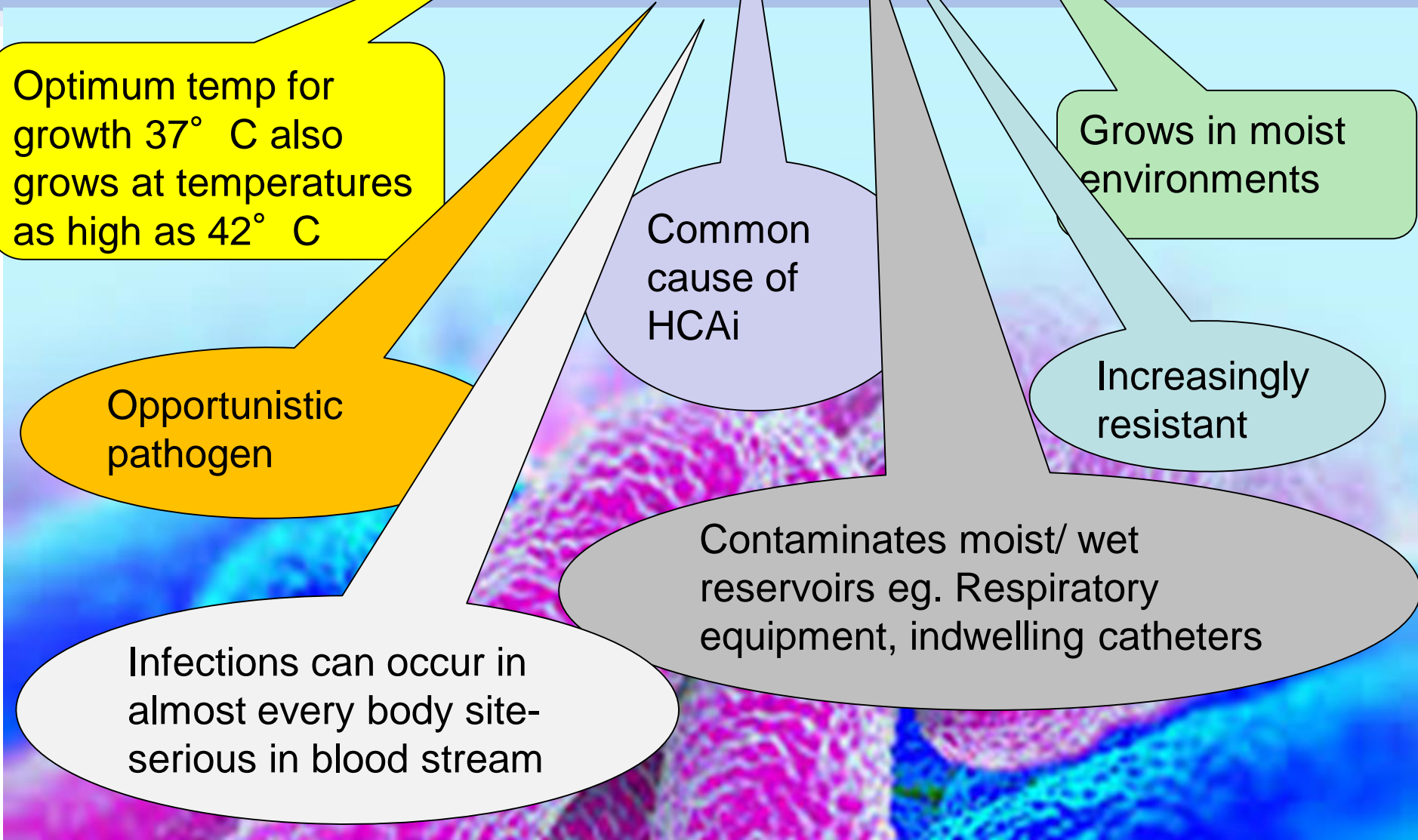
Infections can occur in almost every body site- serious in blood stream

Common cause of HCAi

Grows in moist environments

Increasingly resistant

Contaminates moist/ wet reservoirs eg. Respiratory equipment, indwelling catheters



Control measures

Hand wash basins for hand washing only

Assess susceptibility of patient groups

Flush all taps that are used infrequently

Keep equipment clean and dry

Do not top up cleaning spray, alcohol or other containers

Identify any concerns re safety, maintenance and cleanliness of hand wash basins

Brief overview on Legionella



**Naturally occurring
bacteria within water**

**Ideal breeding
conditions are 20-
45°C with an
optimum
temperature of 37 °C**

**Bacteria attacks lungs
similar to Pneumonia
but more dangerous.**

**Legionnaires
Disease is caught by
inhalation of bacteria
via water aerosols.**

**Incubation time can
be up to 14 days.**

Brief overview on Legionella

Legionnaires
Disease
is characterised
by fever,
myalgia, cough,
pneumonia,
mental
confusion.

The Law

Under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974

YOU

Have a duty to consider the risks from Legionella that may affect people in your care.

The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 1994 say that:

YOU must assess the risks to all staff and patients from bacteria like Legionella and take suitable precautions.

Control Methods

A background image showing a microscopic view of various bacteria, including rod-shaped and spherical forms, some with flagella, against a blue and purple color scheme.

Water Temperature Management

Maintaining the hot water at high temperatures and maintaining the cold water at low temperatures stops the bacteria from multiplying in the water.

Control Methods



Control Methods

- Using each water facility **AT LEAST TWICE WEEKLY** to stop the water from stagnating. Stagnation allows the bacteria to multiply in these conditions



Control Methods



What can YOU do to help?

Evaluate that ALL water facilities such as showers, baths, sinks, WCs, urinals etc. located in your area of work are used adequately

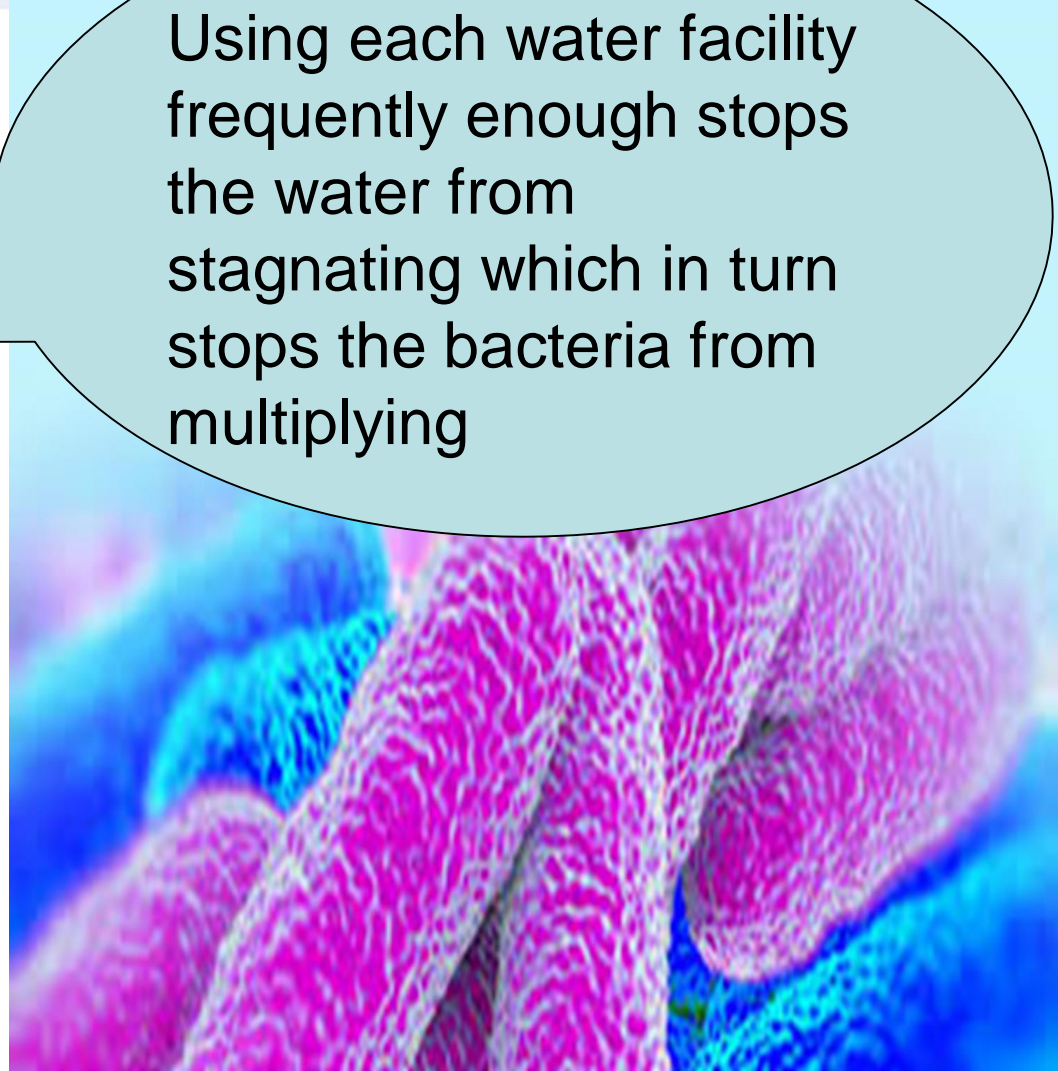
AND IDENTIFY THE ONES WHICH ARE NOT



Control Methods



Using each water facility frequently enough stops the water from stagnating which in turn stops the bacteria from multiplying



Remember!!!

