

# Project Firstline

Project Firstline gives frontline staff the infection control and prevention tools and information they need to protect themselves, their facility, their family and their community from infectious diseases.

Encourage your staff to join today

[hanys.org/project\\_firstline](https://hanys.org/project_firstline)



*CDC's Project Firstline infection control and prevention program is being made available to healthcare workers by HANYS, in collaboration with Health Research, Inc. and the Department of Health.*

# Introduction to Reservoirs: Where Germs Live

## Session 2

# Healthcare Environment Reservoirs



Welcome

# Agenda

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- Welcome and Introductions
- Four Healthcare Environment Reservoirs
- Discussion
- Bringing It Together
- Conclusion

## Polling Question

Who is in the room with us today?

1. Infection Control
2. Quality Professional
3. EVS Staff
4. Security
5. Nurses aid, technician
6. Pharmacy
7. Administration
8. Volunteer
9. Other-nursing, physician



# Reservoirs in the Healthcare Environment

## Water and Wet Surfaces

Sinks and faucets  
Drains  
Ice machines  
Therapy pools



## Dry Surfaces

Bed rails  
Door handles  
Countertops  
Bed curtains



## Dirt and Dust

Construction  
Maintenance  
Repair  
Renovation



## Devices

Stethoscope  
Blood pressure cuff  
Endoscope  
Artificial hip



# Discussion

# Question



**Water and  
Wet Surfaces**



**Dry Surfaces**



**Dirt and Dust**



**Devices**

# Water and Wet Surfaces Reservoir

- Water is used in many ways in healthcare.
- Tap water is safe to drink, but it is not sterile.
- Water and wet surfaces can be good places for germs to grow.

## Pathways:

- Touch
- Splashes and sprays
- Breathing in





# Water and Wet Surfaces: Taking Action



# Dry Surfaces Reservoir

- Germs found on the body, in the air, and in stool can also be found on dry surfaces
- Includes “high-touch” surfaces: bed rails, door handles, light switches

## Pathways:

- Touch
- Breaking down or bypassing the body's defenses



# Dry Surfaces: Taking Action

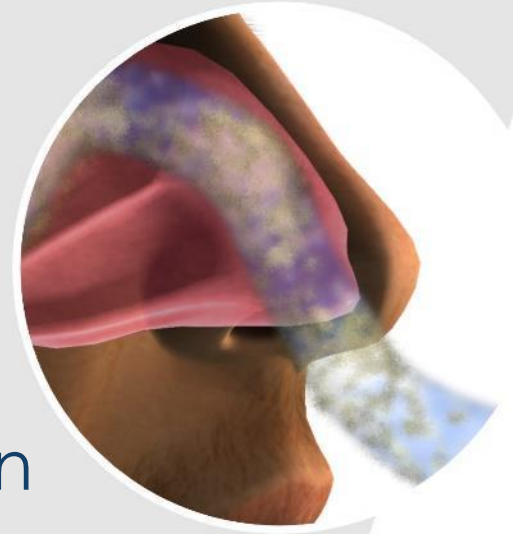


# Dirt and Dust Reservoir

- Dirt, soil, and dust from both outdoors and indoors have germs in them that can be carried through the air.
- Germs in dirt and dust can harm certain patients.

## Pathways:

- Breathing in
- Touch





# Dirt and Dust: Taking Action





# Devices Reservoir

- Often in contact with multiple surfaces and people
- Used **on** a patient's body (stethoscope, blood pressure cuff)
- Used **in** a patient's body (IV needle, endoscope, artificial hip)

## Pathways:

- Breaking down or bypassing the body's defenses
- Touch

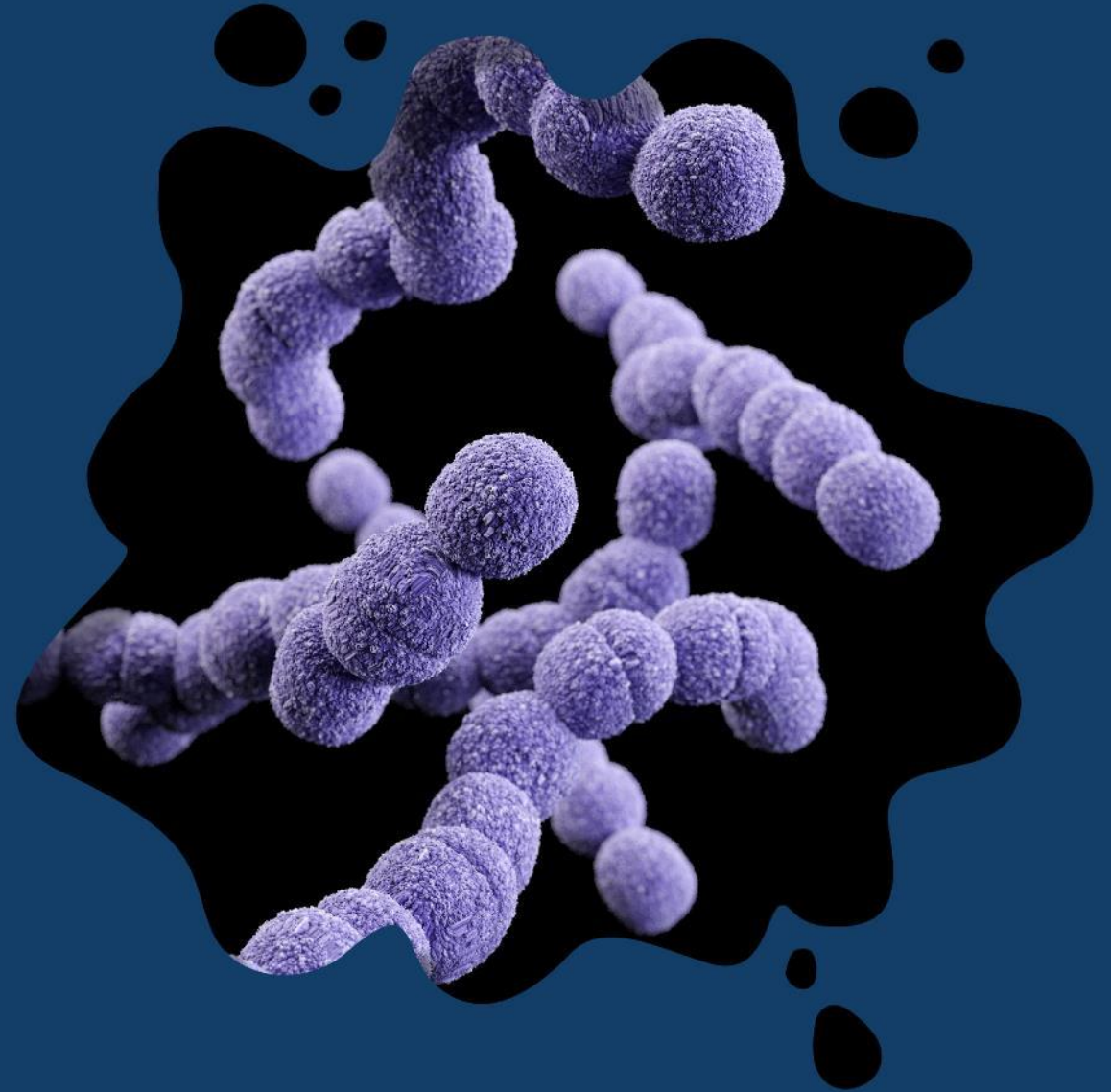


# Devices: Taking Action

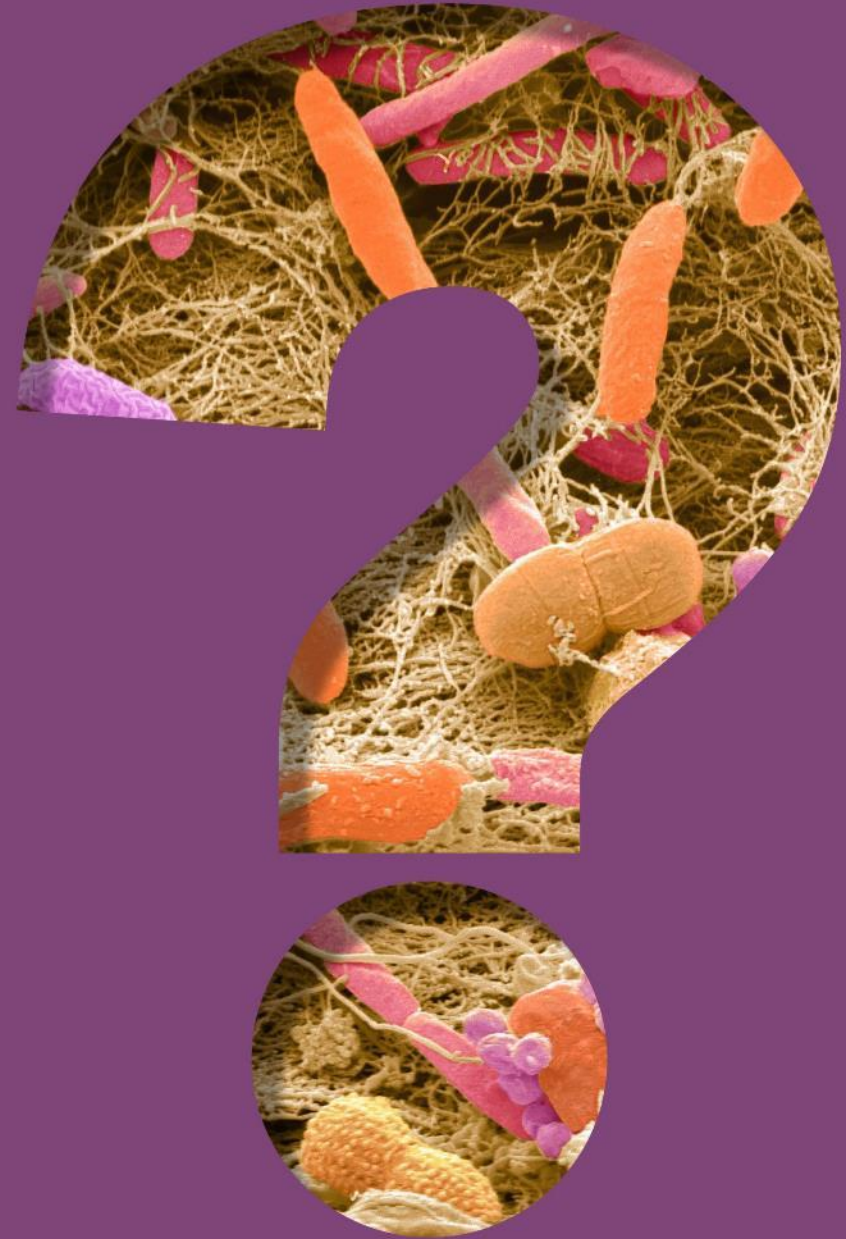


# Bringing It Together

# Reflection



# Questions





# Key Takeaways

- ✓ "Reservoirs" are the places on and in our bodies and in the environment where germs live. Germs frequently spread between and among these reservoirs.
- ✓ Four reservoirs in the healthcare environment that are important for infection control are water and wet surfaces; dry surfaces; dirt and dust; and devices.
- ✓ Understanding where germs live helps us recognize where there is risk for them to be spread and why infection control actions work to stop them from spreading and making people sick.

# Project Firstline Training

## Upcoming webinars (all sessions 9 – 9:30 a.m.)

- April 13, 2023: Virus Variants
- June 15, 2023: Gowns and Gloves
- July 13, 2023: Body Reservoirs
- September 14, 2023: Healthcare Reservoirs

## Recordings ([hanys.org/project\\_firstline](https://hanys.org/project_firstline))

- The concept of infection control training
- The basic science of viruses
- How respiratory droplets spread COVID-19
- How viruses spread from surfaces to people
- How COVID-19 spreads: A review
- Environmental cleaning and disinfection
- Source control in healthcare to prevent infections
- Hand hygiene
- What does it mean to recognize risk
- How germs make people sick
- Recognize and limit infection control risks

# How to Get Involved and Feedback

- Project Firstline on CDC.gov:
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/projectfirstline/index.html>
- CDC's Project Firstline on Facebook:
  - <https://www.facebook.com/CDCProjectFirstline>
- CDC's Project Firstline on Twitter:
  - [https://twitter.com/CDC\\_Firstline](https://twitter.com/CDC_Firstline)
- Project Firstline *Inside Infection Control* on YouTube:
  - <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvrp9iOILTQZQGtDnSDGViKDdRtlc13VX>
- To sign up for Project Firstline e-mails, click here:
  - [https://tools.cdc.gov/campaignproxyservice/subscriptions.aspx?topic\\_id=USCDC\\_2104](https://tools.cdc.gov/campaignproxyservice/subscriptions.aspx?topic_id=USCDC_2104)
- Project Firstline feedback form:
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/pdf/projectfirstline/TTK-ParticipantFeedback-508.pdf>