WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT of HEALTH SERVICES

Infection Preventionist Lunch and Learn

April 14, 2026

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Series Objectives

- Encourage learning, growth, and networking
- Provide non-regulatory education and information
- Discuss topics relevant to new infection preventionists (IPs)

Construction Infection Control Risk Assessment (ICRA)

Breaking Down a Construction Project

Construction in Health Care Facilities

The Guidelines for Environmental Infection Control, 2003 outline best practices including:

- Establishing a multi-disciplinary team.
- Implementing infection control mitigation strategies.
- Using dust control methods and barriers as appropriate.
- Performing risk assessments.

Construction ICRA

- Initiate prior to beginning construction or renovation.
- Utilize a multi-disciplinary team.
- Determine infection mitigation strategies to implement.
- Perform walkthroughs to validate that mitigation strategies are in place.

Determine Activity Type

Type A	**Inspection and non-invasive activities.** Includes but is not limited to: • Removal of ceiling tile for visual inspection-limited to 1 tile per 50 square feet with limited exposure time. • Limited building system maintenance (e.g., pneumatic tube station, HVAC system, fire suppression system, electrical and carpentry work to include painting without sanding) that does not create dust or debris. • Clean plumbing activity limited in nature.
Type B	**Small-scale, short duration activities that create minimal dust and debris.** Includes but is not limited to: • Work conducted above the ceiling (e.g., prolonged inspection or repair of firewalls and barriers, installation of conduit and/or cabling, and access to mechanical and/or electrical chase spaces). • Fan shutdown/startup. • Installation of electrical devices or new flooring that produces minimal dust and debris. • The removal of drywall where minimal dust and debris is created. • Controlled sanding activities (e.g., wet or dry sanding) that produce minimal dust and debris.
Type C	**Large-scale, longer duration activities that create a moderate amount of dust and debris.** Includes but is not limited to: • Removal of preexisting floor covering, walls, casework or other building components. • New drywall placement. • Renovation work in a single room. • Non-existing cable pathway or invasive electrical work above ceilings. • The removal of drywall where a moderate amount of dust and debris is created. • Dry sanding where a moderate amount of dust and debris is created. • Work creating significant vibration and/or noise. • Any activity that cannot be completed in a single work shift.
Type D	**Major demolition and construction activities.** Includes but is not limited to: • Removal or replacement of building system component(s). • Removal/installation of drywall partitions. • Invasive large-scale new building construction. • Renovation work in two or more rooms.

Determine Patient Risk Group

Low Risk Non-patient care areas such as:	Medium Risk Patient care support areas such as:	High Risk Patient care areas such as:	Highest Risk Procedural, invasive, sterile support and highly compromised patient care areas such as:
• Public hallways and gathering areas not on clinical units. • Office areas not on clinical units. • Breakrooms not on clinical units. • Bathrooms or locker rooms not on clinical units. • Mechanical rooms not on clinical units. • EVS closets not on clinical units.	• Waiting areas. • Clinical engineering. • Materials management. • Sterile processing department - dirty side. • Kitchen, cafeteria, gift shop, coffee shop, and food kiosks.	• Patient care rooms and areas • All acute care units • Emergency department • Employee health • Pharmacy - general work zone • Medication rooms and clean utility rooms • Imaging suites: diagnostic imaging • Laboratory.	• All transplant and intensive care units. • All oncology units. • OR theaters and restricted areas. • Procedural suites. • Pharmacy compounding. • Sterile processing department - clean side. • Transfusion services. • Dedicated isolation wards/units. • Imaging suites: invasive imaging.

Determine Class of Precautions

Patient Risk Group	Construction Project Type			
	TYPE A	TYPE B	TYPE C	TYPE D
LOW Risk Group	I	II	II	III*
MEDIUM Risk Group	I	II	III*	IV
HIGH Risk Group	I	III	IV	V
HIGHEST Risk Group	III	IV	V	V

Perform Assessment of the Surrounding Area

Unit Below:	Unit Above:	Unit Lateral:	Unit Behind:	Unit in Front:
Risk Group:	Risk Group:	Risk Group:	Risk Group:	Risk Group:
Contact:	Contact:	Contact:	Contact:	Contact:
Phone:	Phone:	Phone:	Phone:	Phone:
Additional Controls: ☐ Noise ☐ Vibration ☐ Dust control ☐ Ventilation ☐ Pressurization ☐ Vertical Shafts ☐ Elevators/Stairs **Systems impacted:** ☐ Data ☐ Mechanical ☐ Med Gases ☐ Hot/Cold Water	**Additional Controls:** ☐ Noise ☐ Vibration ☐ Dust control ☐ Ventilation ☐ Pressurization ☐ Vertical Shafts ☐ Elevators/Stairs **Systems impacted:** ☐ Data ☐ Mechanical ☐ Med Gases ☐ Hot/Cold Water	**Additional Controls:** ☐ Noise ☐ Vibration ☐ Dust control ☐ Ventilation ☐ Pressurization ☐ Vertical Shafts ☐ Elevators/Stairs **Systems impacted:** ☐ Data ☐ Mechanical ☐ Med Gases ☐ Hot/Cold Water	**Additional Controls:** ☐ Noise ☐ Vibration ☐ Dust control ☐ Ventilation ☐ Pressurization ☐ Vertical Shafts ☐ Elevators/Stairs **Systems impacted:** ☐ Data ☐ Mechanical ☐ Med Gases ☐ Hot/Cold Water	**Additional Controls:** ☐ Noise ☐ Vibration ☐ Dust control ☐ Ventilation ☐ Pressurization ☐ Vertical Shafts ☐ Elevators/Stairs **Systems impacted:** ☐ Data ☐ Mechanical ☐ Med Gases ☐ Hot/Cold Water

Scenario #1

- A long-term care facility needs to repair plumbing above the ceiling tiles in the main corridor of a wing that houses primarily short-term rehab residents.
- **What class of precautions should be used?**

Determine Class of Precautions

Patient Risk Group	Construction Project Type			
	TYPE A	TYPE B	TYPE C	TYPE D
LOW Risk Group	I	II	II	III*
MEDIUM Risk Group	I	II	III*	IV
HIGH Risk Group	I	III	IV	V
HIGHEST Risk Group	III	IV	V	V

Scenario #2

- Maintenance reports that the floor in a surgical suite needs to be replaced next month.
- **What class of precautions should be used?**

Determine Class of Precautions

Patient Risk Group	Construction Project Type			
	TYPE A	TYPE B	TYPE C	TYPE D
LOW Risk Group	I	II	II	III*
MEDIUM Risk Group	I	II	III*	IV
HIGH Risk Group	I	III	IV	V
HIGHEST Risk Group	III	IV	V	V

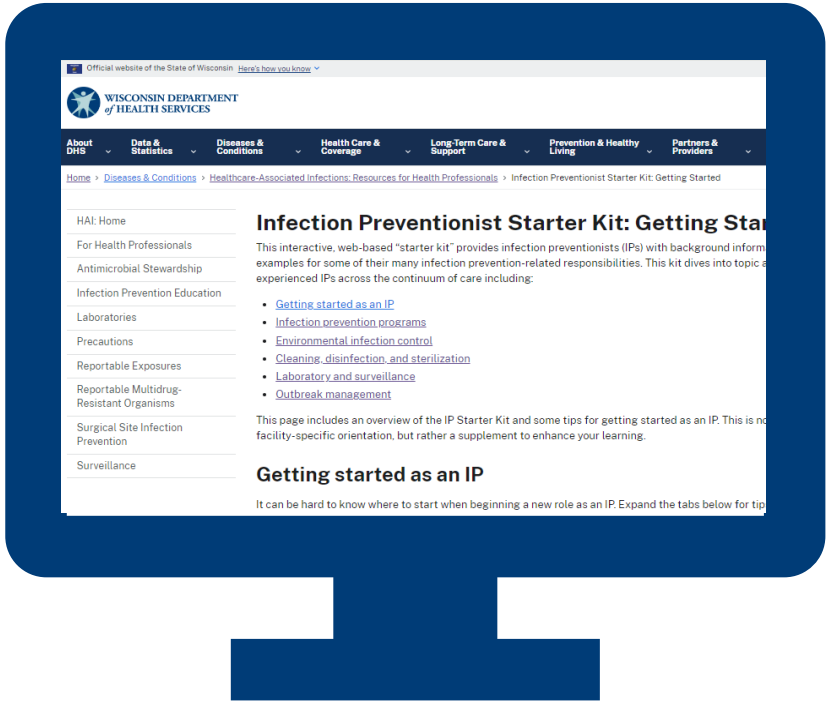
Scenario #3

- A drinking fountain is being removed in the dining room of a hospital. The plastic containment around the construction zone is falling down from the ceiling and there is dust outside the containment.
- **What next steps should be taken?**

Questions?

IP Starter Kit

- Interactive, web-based resource
- Background information, resources, and templates
- Covers topics applicable to IPs across care settings



Send your questions and topic suggestions.

Submit your ideas to Ashley O'Keefe at ashley.okeefe@dhs.wisconsin.gov.

Upcoming Lunch and Learn Session

Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2026

Topic: Infection Prevention in Environmental Services