



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT  
*of* HEALTH SERVICES

# Infection Preventionist Lunch and Learn

**Tuesday, May 12, 2026**

Ashley O'Keefe, MLS (ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, CIC, CDIPC

# Series Objectives

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

# Infection Prevention in Environmental Services (EVS)

# Poll Question

## True or false

High touch surfaces, such as bed rails, call buttons, and floors should be disinfected more frequently than minimal touch surfaces.

# Poll Question

**Room cleaning should take place in the following order:**

- A. Higher to lower, cleaner to dirtier
- B. Lower to higher, cleaner to dirtier
- C. Higher to lower, dirtier to cleaner
- D. Lower to higher, dirtier to cleaner

# Poll Question

## True or false

If an EVS staff member has a preferred disinfecting product, it is acceptable for them to use it over the facility's product of choice, as long as they keep it only on their cart and don't share with other staff.

# Poll Question

Your facility has received a grant for a UV light disinfecting machine. **The proper order for incorporating this technology into your facility's room cleaning procedure is:**

- A. Perform general room cleaning, followed by UV light disinfection, followed by standard disinfection.
- B. Perform general room cleaning, followed by standard disinfection, followed by UV light disinfection.
- C. Perform general room cleaning, followed by UV light disinfection, with no need to perform standard disinfection.

# Core Components

Core components of an EVS program include:

- Integrating it into the culture of safety.
- Educating and training staff.
- Selecting appropriate products and technology.
- Standardizing protocols.
- Monitoring effectiveness.
- Providing feedback.

# Integrate Into Culture of Safety

- Establish a multi-disciplinary team.
- Define goals and responsibilities.
- Meet regularly to review data.



# Educate and Train Staff

- Provide clear training on roles and responsibilities.
- Include topics such as:
  - Products and their uses, including safety information and required personal protective equipment (PPE).
  - Dwell time.
  - The importance of both cleaning and disinfection.
  - Regular cleaning vs. terminal cleaning.

# Select Appropriate Products and Technology

Ensure products chosen are ideal for health care settings, such as those that are:

- Fast-acting, broad spectrum, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved, and easy to use.
- Compatible with other products and surfaces it will be used on.
- Safe for the environment.
- Effective against commonly encountered organisms.

## Cleaning and Disinfectant Product Evaluation Considerations

Product name: \_\_\_\_\_

CONSIDERATION	YES	NO	COMMENTS
<b>Current product inventory</b>			
Is there a similar product already in use at the facility?			
Will this product replace a currently used product?			
<b>Compatibility with surfaces being disinfected</b>			
Can the product be used according to its instructions for use (IFUs) in our facility?			
Is the product effective for our intended use?			
Is the product effective at decontaminating the type of surface being targeted (porous vs. nonporous)?			
Will the product be used to disinfect medical care equipment?			
Will the product damage or degrade surfaces or device with repeated exposure?			
<b>Contact time</b>			
Is the contact time practical?			

CONSIDERATION	YES	NO	COMMENTS
<b>Possible health risks</b>			
Are there health risks associated with this product as stated in the scientific literature?			
Is the environment for dilution processes appropriate (good air circulation)?			
Is the scent of the product bothersome or offensive?			
<b>Required expertise and training</b>			
Does the disinfectant require staff to measure and dilute?			
Does the disinfectant need to be maintained once prepared for spray bottles?			
Is a vendor-supported auto dilution installation required?			
Do quality controls for product dilution exist?			

# Standardize Protocols

Utilize a risk assessment, considering:

- Patient or resident risk factors such as wounds, indwelling devices, diarrhea.
- Amount and type of activity occurring in the space being cleaned.
- Pathogens that are frequently encountered.
- Potential for direct contact.
- Potential for contamination.



# Product Name: *Germ-Buster 5000*



## **i**Product use:

Use a microfiber cloth to wipe common touch points in the facility

## **🛡️**PPE required:

Gloves



Eye protection



## **🕒**Contact time:

2 minutes

## **📝**Notes:

Once prepared, solution expires after 48 hours. Store at room temperature, away from direct sunlight.

# Monitor Effectiveness

Determine:

- Who will perform monitoring.
- What time of monitoring will be performed.
- How frequently monitoring will occur.

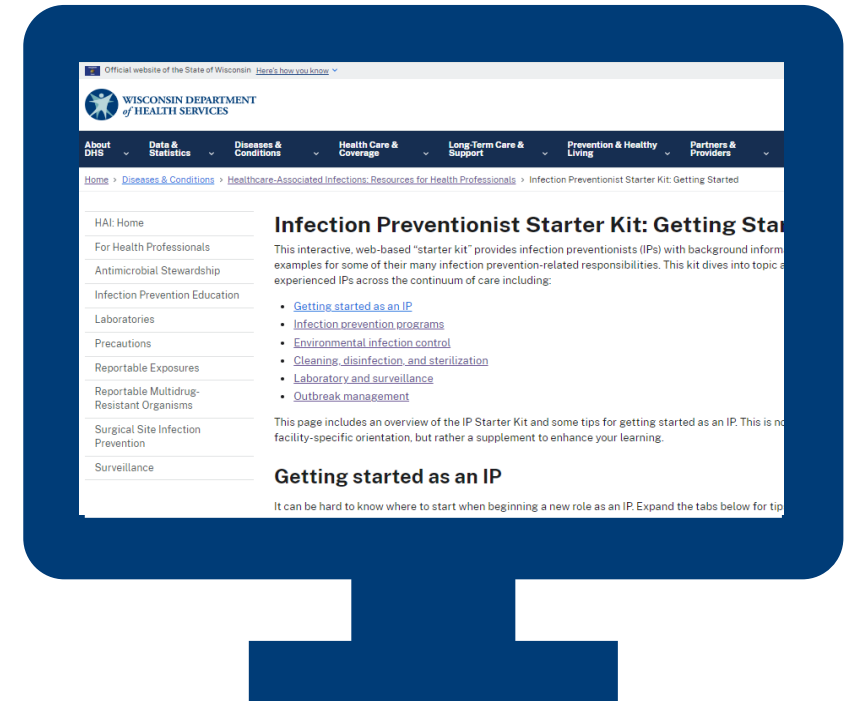


# Provide Feedback

- Share results of monitoring with EVS staff.
- Present data at quality committees to drive improvement and celebrate wins.

# IP Starter Kit

- Interactive, web-based [resource](#)
- Background information, resources, and templates
- Covers topics applicable to IPs across care settings



# HAI Prevention Program Contacts



**Email:** [dhswhaipreventionprogram@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:dhswhaipreventionprogram@dhs.wisconsin.gov)



**Phone:** 608-267-7711



**Website:** [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/hai/contacts.htm](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/hai/contacts.htm)

**Send your questions and topic suggestions.**

Submit your ideas to Ashley O'Keefe at [ashley.okeefe@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:ashley.okeefe@dhs.wisconsin.gov).

# Upcoming Lunch and Learn Session

**Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2026**

**Topic: *Candida auris***