

Suggested Feedback

1. As per the Chain of Transmission Model, Mrs. Pink may have become infected through the following:

- A bacteria or virus can cause a gastrointestinal infection. This link in the Chain would be the Infectious Agent.
- Mrs. Pink's family members are sick and they are the Reservoirs in this Chain of Transmission.
- Mrs. Pink's family members are vomiting and have diarrhea. Their gastrointestinal tracts are the Portals of Exit.
- Mrs. Pink's family members' hands and contaminated environmental surfaces are the Modes of Transmission (contact).
- Mrs. Pink's gastrointestinal tract (mouth) is the Portal of Entry.
- Mrs. Pink's age and diabetes make her a Susceptible Host.

2. The infection control strategies you could use to break the chain to prevent the spread of this infectious agent include:

- Clean hands very well when providing care for Mrs. Pink. Cleaning hands breaks the chain by removing the Mode of Transmission, reducing the Infectious Agents through Portals of Exit and Entry, and killing or removing the Infectious Agent.
- Clean the bathroom and areas used by Mrs. Pink. Cleaning breaks the chain by removing the Reservoir and the Mode of Transmission.
- Clean equipment used by Mrs. Pink. Cleaning breaks the Chain by removing the Reservoir and the Mode of Transmission.

3. The first thing a health care provider needs to do before providing care for Mrs. Pink is:

- A risk assessment

4. Sample questions the health care provider can ask before providing care for Mrs. Pink are:

a. Are there alcohol-based hand rub dispensers or designated hand washing sinks for washing my hands available?

This question helps you to think about the controls in place. Alcohol-based hand rub dispensers and dedicated hand washing sinks are examples of Engineering Controls which are safeguards built into the health care setting structure.

b. Is Mrs. Pink able to follow directions so she doesn't soil the environment?

This question helps you to think about the cognitive (mental) status of Mrs. Pink and her ability to cooperate with instructions.

c. Do I need to use any Personal Protective Equipment when I provide health care for Mrs. Pink?

Although Personal Protective Equipment is the least effective control, Personal Protective Equipment helps to protect you when you are taking care of Mrs. Pink. You may be at risk when you are in contact with excretions, because Mrs. Pink is having diarrhea, vomiting and is soiling the environment.

d. Does Mrs. Pink need a single room?

This is a question to consider. It is preferable that she has a single room if it is available. This is often not the case. If a private room is not available, then you need to use additional measures to minimize the risk of transmission of infection by dedicating either the washroom or a commode for Mrs. Pink's use until she is better.

Chain of Transmission and Risk Assessment

Acute Care Practice Activity

Activity 2: Role Play and Group Work

Objectives

To demonstrate and discuss how infections can be transmitted (Chain of Transmission) and how infections may be prevented.

Materials/props

Role playing cards

Preparation

Prepare 1 set of role playing cards for every 8-10 participants

Details

- Arrange the participants into groups of 8-10
- Give each group a set of role playing cards
- Instruct participants that 5 people will be the characters, and the remaining people will be the observers.
- All are to discuss how infections can be transmitted and how infections may be prevented after all characters acted the content of his/her card
- Provide feedback using the “Possible Feedback for Debriefing”

Notes to trainer

This is an alternative activity to the case study. The minimum number of participants for each group is 5.

Notes:

[illegible]

Activity 2: Role Play Cards

[Fold]

[Cut]

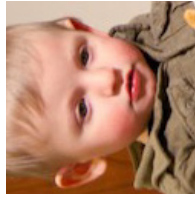


Mrs. Pink

I am been in the hospital recuperating from surgery. They are going to give me an evening pass. I am going to my daughter's for supper tonight because it is my birthday. I just turned 83! It is so good to be feeling better.

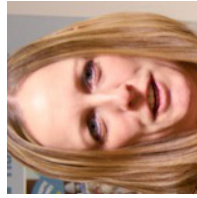
[Cut]

[Cut]



Mrs. Pink's Grandson

I couldn't play with my friends yesterday because I barfed and pooped a lot, but I'm all better now. Mum says that Grandma is coming tonight for her birthday supper. I love playing that hand clapping game with her!



Mrs. Pink's Daughter

My stomach is really upset. I have stomach cramps and am nauseated. I really feel ill, but I promised my Mum we'd celebrate her birthday tonight. I wish I had time to clean the bathroom but I'm not feeling very well and have been really busy.



Mrs. Pink's Health Care Provider

Mrs. Pink returned from a visit with her daughter late last night. Hope she had a good time! This morning she was so weak and had diarrhea and vomiting and had a "few accidents", so I had to clean it all up. She doesn't feel like getting up. I am so busy. I have many other patients to look after today.



Health Care Provider's Supervisor

I just learned that Mrs. Pink has vomiting and diarrhea. I will go see her and do a risk assessment. I'll also ask other Health Care Providers if anyone else has the same symptoms and reinforce infection prevention and control measures with all the staff. (Especially hand hygiene!)

Chain of Transmission and Risk Assessment

Acute Care Practice Activity

Activity 2: Possible Feedback for Debriefing

	How infection can be transmitted:	Possible Preventive Strategies:
<p>Mrs. Pink</p> <p>I am in the hospital recuperating from surgery. They are going to give me an evening pass. I am going to my daughter's for supper tonight because it is my birthday. I just turned 83! It is so good to be feeling better.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs. Pink is a susceptible host due to her advanced age, immune status and recent surgical procedure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand Hygiene Improved nutrition Avoid exposure to people who have communicable infections
<p>Mrs. Pink's Grandson</p> <p>I couldn't play with my friends yesterday because I barfed and pooped a lot, but I'm all better now. Mum says that Grandma is coming tonight for her birthday supper. I love playing that hand clapping game with her!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the grandson has a communicable gastrointestinal infection, the mode of transmission is contaminated hands and contaminated environmental surfaces. The environment becomes contaminated from infectious agents, which increases the risk of transmission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand Hygiene Frequent cleaning and disinfection of the environment (e.g., bathroom, surfaces)
<p>Mrs. Pink's Daughter</p> <p>My stomach is really upset. I have stomach cramps and am nauseated. I really feel ill, but I promised my Mum we'd celebrate her birthday tonight. I wish I had time to clean the bathroom but I'm not feeling very well and have been really busy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It seems that Mrs. Pink's daughter may have picked up the son's gastrointestinal illness, which means this is likely a communicable infection An unclean bathroom poses a risk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reschedule Mrs. Pink's birthday celebration to another time when the family is no longer ill Hand hygiene Frequent cleaning and disinfection of the environment (e.g., bathroom, surfaces)
<p>Mrs. Pink's Health Care Provider</p> <p>Mrs. Pink returned from a visit with her daughter late last night. Hope she had a good time! This morning she was so weak and had diarrhea and vomiting and had a "few accidents", so I had to clean it all up. She doesn't feel like getting up. I am so busy. I have many other patients to look after today.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact (hands, and contaminated surfaces) <p><i>(Note: this is not food poisoning because Mrs. Pink is now ill with the same symptoms and did not eat the same food as the other family members when they became ill.)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand hygiene Cleaning and disinfection of environmental surfaces and medical equipment/devices Health care provider wears personal protective equipment based on risk assessment Dispose of waste properly and handle linen properly
<p>Health Care Provider's Supervisor</p> <p>I just learned that Mrs. Pink has vomiting and diarrhea. I will go see her and do a risk assessment. I'll also ask other Health Care Providers if anyone else has the same symptoms and reinforce infection prevention and control measures with all the staff. (Especially hand hygiene!)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infectious agent Contaminated surfaces Contaminated hands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand hygiene Risk assessment Ongoing surveillance for additional cases (patients with similar symptoms) Communication about risks and education to reinforce hand hygiene, transmission, cleaning and disinfection, use of personal protective equipment