Infection Prevention and Control

Susceptible host

A person who is potentially vulnerable to an infection



Portal of entry

Site through which a pathogen can enter the susceptible host and cause infection, such as a

urinary catheter or central line

Understanding the chain of infection

Infectious agents

Pathogenic (disease-causing) microbes such as bacteria, parasites, viruses, or fungi





Reservoirs

Hosts or habitats - such as humans, animals, or environment

- where infectious





Mode of transportation

Method or route an organism transfers from a reservoir to a susceptible host. Can be directly by touch or aerosolized droplets, or indirectly by contact with contaminated surfaces or intermediate vectors.



Portal of exit

Route infectious agents leave the reservoir. Can be via nose or mouth, urinary tract, or in blood or other bodily fluids.



Ways emergency nurses can break



- Advocate for immunizations
- OPerform correct hand hygiene before and after patient contact
- Clean contaminated objects with appropriate disinfection and sterilization products
- OParticipate in antimicrobial stewardship

- OUse appropriate isolation precautions
- OAssess patient travel and potential exposure history
- Ouse proper personal protective equipment (PPE) OParticipate in nurse-driven removal of urinary catheters
 - OProperly dispose soiled materials in appropriate receptacles
 - OEducate patients on infection prevention





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