



California Department of Public Health Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Program

Infection Preventionist Training for Skilled Nursing Facilities Online Course

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Course Description:

This 14-hour self-paced course is designed for healthcare professionals to work around their schedule and does not have to be completed in one session.

This online course provides practical guidance for implementing an infection prevention program in a skilled nursing facility (SNF) using evidence-based guidelines for preventing healthcare-associated infections (HAI) including central line associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI), *Clostridioides difficile* infection (CDI), catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI), COVID-19, and pneumonia. Students will learn how to measure staff adherence to infection prevention care practices and educate and provide feedback to staff. Students will also learn how to use their facility HAI data to focus infection prevention strategies, conduct an outbreak investigation, and how to implement the essential activities to prevent employee infections.

There is no cost to attend the course; preregistration is required. CEUs will be granted to those who complete the entire course (no partial credit will be issued) and pass the post test for each module (no partial credit will be issued).

Suggested Audience:

Persons responsible for infection prevention and control such as licensed practical nurses, registered nurses, and others working in or with oversight for infection prevention in a SNF.

Primary Objectives:

At the completion of this course, the participant will be able to:

- Discuss the most important care practices for preventing CLABSI, CDI, HAI, pneumonia, CAUTI, and COVID-19
- List evidence-based sources for infection prevention recommendations
- Discuss principles of infection surveillance and other core disciplines such as microbiology, cleaning/sterilization/disinfection, care of the environment, antibiotic stewardship, and employee health
- Describe how to analyze and use HAI data to focus infection prevention activities
- Describe national, state, and local regulatory bodies that oversee infection prevention and HAI public reporting

See following pages for comprehensive list of course objectives

California Department of Public Health/HAI Program approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider # 17280, for 14 contact hours



**California Department of Public Health
Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Program**

**Infection Preventionist Training for Skilled Nursing Facilities Online Course
Objectives by Session**

1. The Role of the Infection Preventionist

- Describe the role of infection preventionists (IP) in health care
- Discuss relationships important to success in performing the IP roles

2. Core Infection Prevention Practices

- Review how a care practice becomes an infection prevention recommendation
- Describe the core infection prevention practices that must be used in all care settings, all the time

3. Standard Precautions

- Describe all 6 elements of Standard precautions
- Review adherence monitoring results and tools for select Standard precautions care practices

4. Transmission-based Precautions

- Describe Transmission-based (isolation) precautions
- Discuss Enhanced Standard precautions used in California skilled nursing facilities
- Review adherence monitoring results and tools for Transmission-based precautions care practices

5. Enhanced Standard Precautions for Skilled Nursing Facilities

- Discuss why the guidance document Enhanced Standard Precautions for SNF, 2019 was updated
- Describe the 6 moments of Enhanced Standard precautions for SNF
- Define the who, what, when, where, and how of Enhanced Standard precautions in SNF
- List examples for applying Enhanced Standard precautions

6. Cleaning, Disinfection, and Reprocessing Reusable Equipment

- Describe the role of the environment in transmitting infections
- Discuss strategies to ensure effectiveness of cleaning and disinfection
- Demonstrate use of adherence monitoring tools and feedback
- List areas where infection prevention environmental assessments should be performed
- Identify determinants for low, intermediate, and high-level disinfection and the Spaulding classification system
- Review examples of non-critical, semi-critical, and critical devices Describe the role of the environment in transmitting infections

7. Introduction to Microbiology

- Describe role of the laboratory in infection prevention
- Describe basic laboratory tests for infectious pathogens
- Discuss common Healthcare Associated Infection (HAI) pathogens

8. *Clostridioides difficile* Infection Prevention

- Describe the cause and epidemiology of *Clostridioides difficile* infection (CDI)
- Review evidence-based CDI prevention strategies
- Describe importance of adherence monitoring and feedback

9. Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infection Prevention

- Describe the etiology and epidemiology of central line associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI)
- Identify patients at risk for CLABSI
- Review evidence-based CLABSI prevention care practices
- Discuss adherence monitoring and feedback

10. Preventing Urinary Tract Infections in Skilled Nursing Facilities

- Describe of healthcare-associated urinary tract infections (UTI) in skilled nursing facilities (SNF)
- Review evidence-based clinical practices shown to prevent catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI)
- Discuss strategies to reduce CAUTI
- Discuss adherence monitoring and feedback

11. Preventing Respiratory Infections in Skilled Nursing Facilities

- Discuss the epidemiology of pneumonia and ventilator-associated pneumonia (VAP)
- Discuss evidence-based pneumonia and VAP prevention care practices
- Review importance of a water management program in Legionella prevention
- Review influenza prevention strategies
- Describe adherence monitoring of prevention practices

12. Scabies Control and Prevention

- Identify signs and symptoms of typical and crusted scabies
- Discuss scabies detection
- Describe elements of a scabies control plan
- Review scabies prevention

13. Antimicrobial Stewardship and Infection Prevention

- Illustrate the link between antimicrobial stewardship and infection prevention
- Review core elements of antimicrobial stewardship, and opportunities for coordination with infection prevention
- Review roles of nursing staff in antimicrobial stewardship programs

14. Outbreaks and Unusual Infection Occurrences

- Discuss unusual infections or disease occurrences that require action
- Review the action steps in an outbreak investigation
- Discuss development of line lists and epidemiology curves for investigating, confirming, and managing an outbreak
- Describe internal and external communication

15. CDPH HAI Program Infection Prevention Assessments in Preparation and Response to COVID-19 in Skilled Nursing Facilities

- Discuss process, challenges and recommendations for COVID-19 assessments in skilled nursing facilities
- Review outbreak cohorting strategies
- Describe personal protective equipment used for Covid-19
- Review importance of hand hygiene and healthcare personnel (HCP) screening
- Discuss the role of effective environmental cleaning
- Discuss when to remove transmission-based precautions and return to work guidance

16. State and Federal Regulatory Requirements

- Describe national, state, and local regulatory bodies that oversee infection prevention and HAI public reporting
- Describe the purpose of CDPH All Facilities Letters (AFL)
- Review current infection control-related regulations

17. Preventing Employee Infections

- Review essential activities of Employee Health programs
- Describe communicable disease screening and immunization guidance
- Describe prevention of bloodborne and airborne diseases
- Review priorities in post exposure management

18. Infection Surveillance in Skilled Nursing Facilities

- Discuss basic principles of epidemiology and how they apply to healthcare-associated infection (HAI) surveillance
- Review recommended surveillance practices
- Describe surveillance outcome and process measures for infection prevention
- Review surveillance definitions (McGeer Criteria)

19. Introduction to NHSN for Skilled Nursing Facilities

- Describe National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) use in skilled nursing facilities (SNF)
- Access NHSN resources for SNF
- Review NHSN reports available for SNF

20. Communication in Skilled Nursing Facilities

- Describe how to develop and communicate infection prevention plans and findings to facility leaders and staff
- Discuss effective processes for internal facility communication
- Review a communication tool for sharing information with health care providers
- Illustrate how to share infection information with external facility partners

21. Resources for Skilled Nursing Facility Infection Preventionist

- Describe how to develop and communicate infection prevention plans and findings to facility leaders and staff
- Discuss effective processes for internal facility communication
- Review a communication tool for sharing information with health care providers
- Illustrate how to share infection information with external facility partners

22. Long Term Care Capers: Uncovering the Answers

- Identify infection prevention and control (IP &C) issues in each case study
- List IP &C principles to answer scenario questions
- Discuss rationale for IP&C choices in each scenario