



PA Project Firstline Newsletter

Summer 2022

Volume 1, Number 4

In This Issue

- Pathogen Match-up: Under the Microscope Learning Tool
- Recognize Infection Risks in Health Care
- Request a Training
- Interactive PPE Scenario
- Need Continuing Education Credits?

Request a Training

Project Firstline is working hard to bring our trainings to you! To request a virtual or in-person training for your facility, we have a web form you can fill out to let us know what types of training and topics you are interested in. Check out our new training request form [here](#).

Interactive PPE Scenario

If you liked the pathogen match-up tool and appreciate innovative training methods, click through this interactive PPE scenario from Project Firstline, too! You will find an interactive scenario to see how a nurse in the hospital uses Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – check it out [here](#)!

Need Continuing Education Credits?

Check out videos with CDC's Dr. Abby Carlson to learn the basic ideas behind infection control, how they work to prevent COVID-19, and how using infection control actions while

Pathogen Match-up: Under the Microscope Learning Tool

1



Review pathogen reference

2



Cut out pathogen container

3



Match the pathogen with the correct characteristics

Are you looking for a fun way to learn some basics about common pathogens found in health care? The American Hospital Association (AHA), in collaboration with the Association for the Health Care Environment (AHE), two Project Firstline partners, have created a great new tool that may be of interest to you.

The pathogen match-up learning tool is a learning game that includes a pathogen reference and flash cards to help frontline staff learn some basics about SARS-CoV-2, *Clostridioides difficile* (*C. diff*), and methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), just to name a few.

If you are interested in checking out the pathogen match-up game, you can find it [here](#).

Recognize Infection Risks in Health Care

Risk is a part of our daily life. We all handle risks every day with relative ease – approaching a flashing yellow light at an intersection slowly, handling a hot pan carefully, looking both ways before crossing the street on our evening walk through the neighborhood. We have all been trained from a very young age to recognize and mitigate these risks.

Recognizing risks for germs to spread in healthcare can be more difficult to bring to the front of your mind because we can't see germs in the same way that we can see a speeding car coming towards us in the street. However, there is a higher chance for germs to spread in healthcare settings than other community settings. Additionally, healthcare workers

you're at work can protect you, your patients, your co-workers, and your community.

Earn a certificate of completion for watching Inside Infection Control episodes on CDC TRAIN. Launch the video from TRAIN to receive your certificate.

Earn continuing education through Training and Continuing Education Online (TCEO):

[Group One – Introduction to Infection Control and Virus Basics](#)

[Group Two – Injection Safety](#)

[Group Three – PPE Basics](#)

[Group Four – Respirator Basics](#)

[Group Five – Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Basics](#)

[Group Six – Ventilation, Source Control, and Hand Hygiene](#)

[Group Seven – How COVID-19 Spreads](#)

Contact Us

PA Project Firstline

Pennsylvania Department of Health –
Bureau of Epidemiology

Room 933, Health & Welfare Building

625 Forster Street

Harrisburg, PA 17120-0701

RA-DHFIRSTLINE@pa.gov

and their patients generally have closer and more prolonged contact than people would in other community settings. Patients are also more likely to be vulnerable to infection if they are already ill or have a weakened immune system for any reason.

Thus, it is important to try to keep potential infection risks at the front of your mind. This means that you should learn to identify moments where there are opportunities for germs to spread, and to do that, we need to know where germs live (their reservoirs) and how they can get from place to place or to people to cause an infection (through pathways). You can visit the [CDC Project Firstline webpage](#) to learn more about where germs live in healthcare settings.

What would you see
if you could examine the people, surfaces, and devices around you under a microscope?

Knowing where germs live helps you understand how to stop their spread – and protect your patients.

Recognize the risks.
Protect your patients.
Learn more with Project Firstline.

WWW.CDC.GOV/PROJECTFIRSTLINE