

Infection Control for HBPC – Discussion Guide with Facilitator Notes

Thank you for leading a group discussion regarding key learning points from the HCCI online education activity, *Infection Control for HBPC*. This guide is intended to help you prepare to facilitate this discussion.

OVERVIEW

Purpose: The discussion’s purpose is to reinforce your practice’s commitment to minimize infection risks to providers, patients, and caregivers.

Audience: This discussion is intended for learners who have successfully completed the online education activity, *Infection Control for HBPC*. The discussion should take no longer than 60 minutes to complete.

Materials:

- Hard copies of the *Next Steps* handout from the Resources screen in the course.
- *Optional:* Hard copies of the *Infection Control Strategies* handout from the Resources screen in the course.
- *Optional:* A flipchart to capture comments and ideas to help focus discussions and/or save for future consideration.

Instructions: Use the question prompts provided to initiate group discussions.

Learning objectives:

- Recognize general infection risks providers may encounter in the home and how they can impact patients, family members, and providers.
- Describe infection risks that require special considerations including multi-drug resistant organisms and bed bugs.
- Apply strategies to minimize infection risks including provider behaviors, contraindications to house calls, and infection control programs.

AGENDA

#	Topic	~Minutes
1	Introduction	5 min
2	General Infection Risks	15 min
3	Special Consideration Infection Risks	10 min
4	Strategies to Minimize Risks	10 min
5	Debrief	5 min

TOPIC 1: INTRODUCTION

Question prompts:

- Who can recall from the course how many fatalities the WHO estimated each year from healthcare-associated infections?
- Do you think infection risks are higher in the home-based setting vs. a hospital setting? Why or why not?

TOPIC 2: GENERAL INFECTION RISKS

Question prompts:

- Many of the planning strategies from the course require that you take time before the appointment to do things like review family/cultural preferences, pack necessary supplies, and dress appropriately. Were there any strategies that surprised you?
- Were there any strategies that seemed like they would be a challenge to implement in our practice? If so, how can we overcome that or what strategies can we implement instead?
- Do you currently ask about shoe wearing preference in the home? How do you handle it?
- Is the bag organization into three sections consistent with what you currently do, or do you do something similar?
- Do any of you experience issues transporting your bag and equipment, either using personal or public transportation?
- What other strategies do you implement—either before, during, or after the visit—that didn't make it in the course? Why is that strategy important to you?

Note: Now would be a good opportunity to refer learners to any standard cleaning protocols within your practice.

TOPIC 3: SPECIAL CONSIDERATION INFECTION RISKS

Question prompts:

- Do you think our home-based patients are at a higher risk than in a hospital setting for MDROs? What unique challenges do we face as home-based primary care providers?
- Which strategies from the MDRO list do you feel are most important? Why?
- Which strategies from the bed bug list do you feel are most important? Why?
- Are there any other strategies you would add to these lists?

Note: Now would be a good opportunity to also refer learners to any standard protocols within your practice regarding handling MDROs and bed bugs.

TOPIC 4: STRATEGIES TO MINIMIZE RISK

Question prompts:

- The course discussed times when you shouldn't enter the home due to infection risks. Do you remember what those reasons were?
- What are some possible actions providers should take when entering the home is contraindicated? **NOTE:** *If they exist, you may wish to review and discuss internal policies or*

procedures, e.g., scheduling the patient visit at the end of the day, use of personal protective (PP) equipment, rescheduling the visit for a later date after the risk has been mitigated.

- Have you participated in an Infection Control Program? If so, what role did you play and what impact do you think it had?
- Do you think an Infection Control Program would be beneficial in our practice?

Note: If your practice has an Infection Control Program, you may wish to distribute more information regarding the program. If your practice does NOT have a program, you may want to consider asking learners to express interest if they would like to be involved in contributing to efforts to plan one.

TOPIC 5: DEBRIEF

Question prompts:

- Are there any practices that you don't think we as providers are currently doing that we should start (or we should start to do better/more consistently)?
- Are there any strategies that this course confirmed for you that we as providers in our practice should continue doing?
- Refer to the *Next Steps* handout. Review and mark which steps you would like to commit to taking next. Share your ideas for implementation.