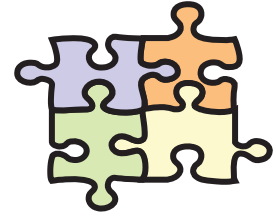


Infection Connection

"The Intent is to Prevent"



October 2010

Volunteer for the Community Flu Campaign and Food Drive

We are now accepting volunteers for this year's Community Flu Campaign and Food Drive. We are especially in need of help in the afternoon at both locations. Please call 402-CARE to register.

11/6/10 - Dorney Park - 9am-3pm

11/7/10 - Coca Cola Park (Iron Pigs Stadium) - 9am-3pm



Rater Survey

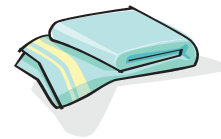
Thank you for taking part in this year's Rater Survey. We appreciate your feedback and take your suggestions seriously!

Flu Signage

Please remove **old** flu signs (H1N1 and Swine Flu) from your entry-ways, waiting rooms, lobbies, patient rooms, etc... New signage will be available soon. Call 402-0680 to request new signs.

Linen

It is imperative that clean linen carts remain **COVERED** at all times!



Marking Pens

Surgical marking pens are **SINGLE PATIENT USE** only!

BacT/ALERT Blood Culture Collection Procedure

Please click on the following link to view instructions on the proper blood culture collection procedure to ensure accurate results. <http://lvhwebcontent.lvh.com/?id=2400&sid=1>

Missing



The Infection Control & Prevention Department is missing several easels. If you come across one, please contact Amber Kucher via email or phone at 402-0177. Thank you!

CDIF - Know the Signs

A multi-disciplinary task force has been convened to address the growing problem with *Clostridium difficile* (*C.diff*).

C.difficile is a bacterium that can cause diarrhea and other serious intestinal problems.

Key risk factors include:

- Current or recent antibiotic use
- Advanced age
- Severe underlying illness or weakened immune system
- Current or recent stay in health-care setting
- Living in a nursing home or long-term care facility
- Recent gastrointestinal surgery
- Current use of a nasogastric tube
- Previous *C.diff* infection

How *C.diff* is spread:

- The fecal-oral route
- The hands of health-care workers
- “High-touch” surfaces and patient-care items

Know the signs of infection:

Mild

- occasional watery diarrhea
- mild abdominal pain or cramping

Moderate

- frequent watery diarrhea (may be foul-smelling)
- moderate abdominal pain or cramping
- fever
- nausea and loss of appetite

Severe

- blood and/or pus in frequent watery diarrhea (may be foul-smelling)
- severe abdominal pain or cramping

*These are signs of an inflamed colon. These patients are at high risk for dangerous complications such as ruptured colon and blood poisoning.

Clean and disinfect “high-touch” items and patient-care equipment carefully with Dispatch or Virasept.

Prevent the spread of *C.diff* by doing the following:

- Place infected patients in single rooms or cohort patients
- Wear, replace, and dispose of PPE between each patient

Proper and frequent hand washing is key! Remember...alcohol-based hand sanitizers do not kill *C.diff* bacteria. You must use soap and water.

