C. difficile Highlight

C. difficile is on the rise, not just at LVHN, but everywhere. A highlight has been created in HBI to track all confirmed and rule out cases of C. difficile at LVH-CC, LVH-M, and LVH-17. The highlight is titled C_Difficile. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Amber Kucher. Please remember when caring for a patient with C. difficile to Gel IN and Wash UT!

HIV Testing

Consent for HIV testing is still required. Act 59 (amendment to PA Act 148) states that written consent for HIV testing is no longer necessary, although documented informed consent must be obtained. Refer to The Learning Curve (TLC) for power-point education related to Act 59.

Isolation Caddy

All isolation supplies must be removed and discarded from the caddy upon patient discharge. Wipe the caddy with a hospital approved disinfectant. Avoid waste - fill the caddy with enough supplies for 1 day.
Isolation Precautions Gowns

Isolation Precautions gowns are **not** disposable, therefore; should not be thrown away. They are also **not** to be reused on the same patient. Please place in the linen hamper after use.

Laryngoscope Blades

All reusable blades must be packaged in steri-peel or individual baggies once disinfected. This includes all Code Carts and Airway Carts. All blades must be stored with a protective cover.

Refrigerator and Freezer Temperature Monitoring

A new log has been developed and is available for distribution. Start date for the new log was May 1, 2012. New freezer thermometers have been obtained and will be distributed along with instructions for use. If you are in need of a thermometer for patient food freezers or patient ice pack freezers, please contact the Infection Control and Prevention department at 484-884-1180. The new log is titled “Appliance Temperature Documentation Form” (Form# IC-26) and is available on the Infection Control and Prevention website - http://lvhwebcontent.lvh.com/?id=2982&sid=1 and also may be ordered through Standard Register.

TB Fit Testing Reminder

Annual TB Fit testing is required for all staff who are required to wear an N-95 respirator. Effective immediately, staff will receive an email reminder 30 days prior to expiration of their annual fit test date. Personnel that are already marked as expired in The Learning Curve (TLC) will not receive a notification. Please check your TLC transcript to ensure your staff are up to date for annual fit testing.

TRU-D

Communication and turn around time issues continue to occur related to the use of Tru-D for disinfection of rooms following discharge of a patient identified with *C. difficile* (Cdiff). Updated guidelines for deployment were previously emailed and can be found on the Infection Control and Prevention website - http://lvhwebcontent.lvh.com/?id=219&sid=1. Please continue to work with Patient Logistics and General Services to assure proper disinfection is achieved. All guidelines can be found on the Infection Control and Prevention website. One of the issues identified was the smell after the room has been disinfected. It does dissipate and is **NOT** harmful. Fans can be obtained from Engineering if needed.