

# vSNF Workgroup | Workshop #11

Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection:

Strategies for EVS Managers – Part 1

*The Role of EVS Managers in Infection Prevention*

February 8, 2023

Healthcare-Associated Infections Program  
Center for Health Care Quality  
California Department of Public Health



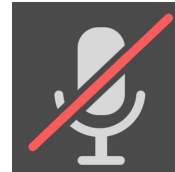
## Housekeeping Reminders



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# Agenda

12-12:05PM	Welcome
12:05-12:35PM	EVS for EVS Managers: The Role of EVS in Infection Prevention
12:35-1:25PM	Breakout Groups and Discussion
1:25-1:30PM	Next Steps

## Implicit Bias

- Describes how our unconscious attitudes or judgements can influence our thoughts, decisions, or actions
- Includes involuntary, unintentional perceptions made without awareness
- Occurs as our brains sort information and perceive data to understand our world
- Affects our decisions, contributing to societal disparities
  - Self awareness about implicit bias can promote healthcare diversity and equality
- Learn more about your own implicit bias at [Project Implicit](https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/) (implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/)



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# THE ROLES OF INFECTION PREVENTIONISTS (IP) AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (EVS) MANAGERS

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# The Role of the Infection Preventionist

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- ✓ Work with EVS managers to develop the EVS program
  - ✓ Build relationships and involve other department managers when developing the EVS program
  - ✓ Understand EVS manager roles and EVS staff workflow
  - ✓ Develop and maintain facility policy and procedures
  - ✓ Ensure EVS managers feel confident with infection control principles and practices so they can better support and train EVS staff
  - ✓ And more!
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## The Role of the EVS Manager

- ✓ Understand the rationale for every step in the cleaning and disinfection process
  - This helps to teach EVS staff proper technique for room cleaning and disinfection
- ✓ Develop and maintain facility policy and procedures for EVS
  - Policy should include the areas/surfaces and equipment that need to be cleaned by EVS staff (e.g., high-touch surfaces)
  - Define responsibility and frequency for cleaning and disinfecting patient care equipment and surfaces
- ✓ Provide new employee orientation and training
  - Review IPC practices for EVS; ensure competency for IPC practices
- ✓ And more!

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# CONVENING A MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM TO SUPPORT EVS STAFF

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# IP-EVS Collaboration: How Does the IP-EVS Manager Relationship Work?

- IP should sit on the same committees as the EVS manager (e.g., QAPI, ICC)
  - ICC is one where discussions of data can lead to conversations offline between the IP and the EVS manager to improve any practice gaps found
- Discuss adherence monitoring results
  - Missed hand hygiene opportunities for EVS staff
  - PPE donning/doffing adherence by EVS staff
  - Environmental cleaning and disinfection adherence rates (including fluorescent marker tool)
- Keep open lines of communication
- Understand each other's roles and responsibilities for EVS
- And more!

## Case Study #1

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Your EVS staff are complaining about the current disinfectant's smell. They find it too strong and obnoxious so they bring in products from home. As the facility's EVS manager, what steps should you take before transitioning to a new disinfectant? Can the product from home be approved for use?

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## Case Study #1 Considerations and Solutions

- Not all disinfectants are alike – Consult and review the disinfectant with your facility IP
- Review [EPA-registered disinfectants list](https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/selected-epa-registered-disinfectants)  
([www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/selected-epa-registered-disinfectants](https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/selected-epa-registered-disinfectants))
- Examples:
  - [List K: EPA’s Registered Antimicrobial Products Effective Against Clostridium Difficile Spores](https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-k-epas-registered-antimicrobial-products-effective-against-clostridium)  
([www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-k-epas-registered-antimicrobial-products-effective-against-clostridium](https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-k-epas-registered-antimicrobial-products-effective-against-clostridium))
  - [List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2](https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/about-list-n-disinfectants-coronavirus-covid-19-0)  
([www.epa.gov/coronavirus/about-list-n-disinfectants-coronavirus-covid-19-0](https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/about-list-n-disinfectants-coronavirus-covid-19-0))
  - [List P: Antimicrobial Products Registered with EPA for Claims Against Candida Auris](https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-p-antimicrobial-products-registered-epa-claims-against-candida-auris)  
([www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-p-antimicrobial-products-registered-epa-claims-against-candida-auris](https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-p-antimicrobial-products-registered-epa-claims-against-candida-auris))

## Case Study #2

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Your facility is looking to contract EVS services with *Clean It Up, LLC*. As your facility's IP, you need to review the contract terms. What do you look for? Who do you involve in the process?

## Case Study #2 Considerations and Solutions

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- Contract will vary from facility to facility; the IP role is to oversee the contract and ensure that elements of the contract correspond to facility policy and are being followed by EVS staff
  - Review responsibilities and expectations of the contracted EVS company; does it include *Who Cleans What* guidance?
  - Contract companies can be responsible for purchasing disinfectant products, soaps, and hand sanitizer; ensure the appropriate products are purchased and used
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# IP-EVS Collaboration: Working with Contract EVS Companies

- The facility IP and contracted EVS manager should work together to provide IPC training to EVS staff
- The IP should review the contract (e.g., check requirements for training) and ensure correct IPC practices are being taught by the contract company
- The contracted EVS manager should review the facility's IPC policies and procedures

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## BREAKOUT GROUPS AND DISCUSSION

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## Discussion Questions

1. Who are your partners in your facility? How do you leverage those relationships to improve IPC training and adherence?
2. Share a time when you worked with your facility IP/EVS manager (can be a success or a challenge). Or, can you think of something you would like to work on?
3. How do you involve your LHD to develop IP-EVS manager relationships? (e.g., proactive outreach, response efforts)
4. How do you ensure EVS staff are provided with consistent and accurate IPC training?
5. What do you and your IP look for when assessing EVS cleaning and disinfection practices? (regarding hand hygiene, disinfectants, setting up a cart, cleaning and disinfection process)
6. What is one thing you learned today that you can take back to your facility? (e.g., share an 'aha moment')





## NEXT STEPS



# Timeline

- **March 8:** Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Strategies – Part 2
- **May 10:** Quality Improvement Project Updates – Part 2
- **June 14:** Antimicrobial Prescribing and Transitions of Care Communication
- **August-September:** Final onsite infection prevention assessments
- **September 13:** Quality Improvement Project Updates – Part 3
- **October 11:** Closing Session / Wrap Up

## Next Steps

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- Fill out the **course evaluation** (required for CEU)
  - Continue to **check in monthly** with your HAI Program IP
  - Continue **planning and implementing your QI project**
  - Join us for our **next vSNF workshop on Wednesday, March 8, 12-1:30PM:**  
Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Strategies – Part 2
  - Access resources** on the [vSNF webpage](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/HAI/Pages/vSNF.aspx)  
([www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/HAI/Pages/vSNF.aspx](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/HAI/Pages/vSNF.aspx))
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## Questions?

Contact Erin Garcia at [Erin.Garcia@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Erin.Garcia@cdph.ca.gov)