

FAQ

Module 8 IPC While Providing Nail Care and Shaving Residents

Facilitator notes: Each Project Firstline CNA module is designed to provide 30 minutes of training content with optional post-training discussion using the *FAQ* files. Use any or all FAQ below to initiate further discussion among CNA after trainings, during huddles or team meetings, etc.

Nail Care

1. What do CNAs do if they are providing nail care to a resident with painted nails?

Some facilities have nail painting as an activity for residents; it is a good idea to integrate infection prevention practices in this activity. CNAs could assist with nail polish removal as needed so nail beds can be examined. Both CNAs and residents should perform hand hygiene before engaging in nail painting. Note that colored polish should not be applied if there is nail bed or cuticle inflammation. Check with your facility's guidelines.

2. Can you share nail clippers?

No, do not share equipment between residents. By not sharing you reduce the risk of germs spreading. Note that CNAs do not generally use nail clippers for resident care, and should report to the nurse if a resident has fingernails or toenails that need clipping. Refer to your facility's guidelines.

Shaving

3. CNAs should only use electric razors for shaving. What should residents use if they want to shave on their own?

Review your facility's policy for resident-led shaving. A nurse may need to assist for safety razors that may be suggested.

References

- [Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection | Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](http://www.train.org/cdctrain/course/1081815/)
(www.train.org/cdctrain/course/1081815/)
- [Healthcare Settings: Preventing the Spread of MRSA | Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](http://www.cdc.gov/mrsa/healthcare/index.html)
(www.cdc.gov/mrsa/healthcare/index.html)
- [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations to Prevent SARS-CoV-2 Spread in Nursing Homes | Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/long-term-care.html)
(www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/long-term-care.html)
- [Reprocessing Reusable Resident Care Equipment | Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](http://www.train.org/cdctrain/course/1081814/)
(www.train.org/cdctrain/course/1081814/)