Workbook answers – Q1

**Activity 1: fill in the blanks to describe the chain of infection.**

The chain of *infection* demonstrates the links commonly needed to support the *spread* of infection. The agent is the *organism*, e.g. *bacteria*, *virus* or *fungi* that produces the infection.The *reservoir* is the location where the micro-organism exists and reproduces, e.g. *people*, animals, food, *water* etc. The *portal* of exit is the means by which the infectious agent *leaves* the reservoir (coughs, sneezes, saliva). Means of *transmission* is how the infectious agent is passed on from one thing to another, e.g. *airborne*, *blood borne*. The portal of *entry* is the way in which the *infectious* agents enter the body, e.g. *mouth*, *nose*, *wounds*. The *person at risk* is determined by a number of factors including *age*, medical conditions or *suppressed immune system* .

**Activity 2: identify at each point in the chain how it can be broken.**

Infectious agent:

* Removal of any microorganisms through cleaning.
* Ensuring that people with an infection are treated promptly

Reservoir:

* Cleaning environment
* Cleaning equipment
* Flushing water sources through – no stagnant water

Portal of exit:

* Respiratory etiquette
* Isolation of those affected.

Means of transmission:

* Hand hygiene
* Cleaning environment and equipment
* Isolation of those affected.
* PPE
* Vaccinations

Portal of entry:

* Cover any wounds
* Use PPE
* Avoid indwelling devices where possible
* Hand hygiene
* Do not drink or eat affected food.

Person at risk:

* Adequate nutrition
* Adequate hydration
* Good oral hygiene
* Good personal care

**Activity 3: identify what is wrong in the images and how you would correct it**

1. Sink picture
* Bar soap – preferably liquid soap should be used.
* Housekeeping equipment next to sink
* Cups left near sink
* Nail brush – should be named
* Diary left next to the sink – potentially contains confidential info
* Electrical equipment stored next to sink
1. Waste bin picture
* Handbag next to waste bin
* Clinical waste bags stored on top of bin
* Contents of bin sticking out
1. Sharps bin picture
* Sharps sticking out of the bin
* No date of opening
* Not signed
* Cotton wool being put in sharps bin

Activity 4:

**Activity 5: match up the colour to the correct task in line with the national cleaning colours. This could be PPE or cleaning equipment.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Assisting someone to shave | Blue Green |
| Handling contaminated laundry  | Red Red |
| Serving lunch from the kitchen | Green  |
| Cleaning up a spill of faeces associated with a D&V outbreak | Yellow  |
| Preparing sandwiches for a picnic | Green  |
| Mopping up a spill of urine | Red  |
| Cleaning the room of someone with C.Diff | Yellow  |
| Assisting someone to have a bath | Blue  |

**Activity 6: How would you respond to the following scenario?**

George has been diagnosed with influenza. He is a resident in a 22 bedded home. George has severe lethargy and is agreeable to remaining in bed. George is indicated as a high risk on his must tool and also on his waterlow tool. George has been prescribed a course of antibiotics by his GP. In his current state of health George is having trouble with his swallowing and staff are noticing that he is often refusing his tablets. George is urinary incontinent but does not use a catheter, normally he is able to recognise when he needs to pass urine, however he is having trouble recognising it as he is unwell.

* Isolation procedures
* High risk on must and waterlow – indication for turning, fluid and food charts
* Antibiotics incorrect – should be Tamiflu
* Difficulty swallowing – soft diet, liquid medication where possible, SALT referral
* Incontinence – consider pads, convene if necessary.