



**SD PROJECT
FIRSTLINE**

CDC's National Training Collaborative
for Healthcare Infection Prevention & Control



May 2024 Newsletter

Project Firstline offers **Micro-learns** to help stop the Spread of Germs in Healthcare

Micro-learns are a series of guided discussions that connect infection control concepts to immediate, practical value, so healthcare workers can recognize infection risks and take action to stop the spread of germs. They are short, adaptable and can be easily used in your facility to train and educate staff.

May's Micro-learn "Rash"

A rash is an abnormal skin that is usually red, irritated, or broken and may have bumps, flat spots, or blisters. A rash can be caused by many things, including allergies, insect bites and viruses such as chicken pox and measles. Many viral infections can be associated with a rash and can spread to other people or to the environment. These viruses can spread when the infected person breathes or if the rash is disturbed, such as by scratching or rubbing, which can send infected fluid or debris into the air.

Don't touch the rash if you don't have to. If you must touch a rash, use gloves. Regardless of the cause, any rash is a vulnerable area where germs can enter the body. If it is possible to cover the rash, it's often best to do so, but there are some exceptions. Germs can spread from a rash to anything that touches it, so make sure to clean and disinfect surfaces and properly handle linens that have touched the rash. If the rash is accompanied by cough and congestion, consider the possibility that it is caused by a virus that spreads through the air, and separate the patient from others.

Discuss with staff: What do I do when I see a rash? Do you worry about catching something? Do you have all the tools you need? How can we do better as a team?

**HEALTHCARE
WORKERS**



**Scan for FREE
educational videos:**



**Learn how to prevent
the spread of infections
with CDC infection control
trainings, posters, and
resources.**



**PROJECT
FIRSTLINE**

CDC's National Training Collaborative
for Healthcare Infection Prevention & Control

sdprojectfirstline.org



Office Hours Call Link:

Join us! Office hours are the 2nd Wednesdays of each month at 11:00 am CST. Each month we focus on an Infection Prevention tip. *Learn, share, network!*

The **South Dakota Foundation for Medical Care** is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Join here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89402993770?pwd=NkVyMVQwVFdjQlR0N0FIMFhmckZwUT09#success>