

ANSWERS TO ORAL REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. List the single most important way to prevent the spread of infection.

HANDWASHING

2. Define nosocomial infection.

AN INFECTION ACQUIRED AFTER HOSPITALIZATION

3. Do RCPs need to wash hands after each patient contact if gloves are used?

YES. THE CDC RECOMMENDS, hands should be washed “Before and after treating each patient (e.g., before glove placement and after glove removal).”

4. Explain and outline the Standard Precautions currently recommended by the Center for Disease Control (CDC).

Standard Precautions synthesize the major features of UP (Blood and Body Fluid Precautions) (27,28) (designed to reduce the risk of transmission of blood borne pathogens) and BSI (body substance isolation)(29,30) (designed to reduce the risk of transmission of pathogens from moist body substances) and applies them to all patients receiving care in hospitals, regardless of their diagnosis or presumed infection status. Standard Precautions apply to 1) blood; 2) all body fluids, secretions, and excretions except sweat, regardless of whether or not they contain visible blood; 3) non-intact skin; and 4) mucous membranes. Standard Precautions are designed to reduce the risk of transmission of microorganisms from both recognized and unrecognized sources of infection in hospitals.

Simplified version: *It is up to the RCP to decide what PPE is needed, based on the situation, to protect themselves from all blood and body fluids.*

5. Describe when gloves should be worn.

Wear gloves (clean, non-sterile gloves are adequate) when touching blood, body fluids, secretions, excretions, and contaminated items. Put on clean gloves just before touching mucous membranes and non-intact skin. Change gloves between tasks and procedures on the same patient after contact with material that may contain a high concentration of microorganisms. Remove gloves promptly after use, before touching non-contaminated items and environmental surfaces, and before going to another patient, and wash hands immediately to avoid transfer of microorganisms to other patients or environments. *Category IB*