

Break the Chain of Infection

BREAK THE CHAIN!

- ✓ Immunizations
- ✓ Treatment of underlying disease
- ✓ Health insurance
- ✓ Patient education



BREAK THE CHAIN!

- ✓ Diagnosis and treatment
- ✓ Antimicrobial stewardship

BREAK THE CHAIN!

- ✓ Cleaning, disinfection, sterilization
- ✓ Infection prevention policies
- ✓ Pest control



Infectious agent

- Bacteria
- Fungi
- Viruses
- Parasites

Reservoir

- Dirty surfaces and equipment
- Animals/Insects
- People
- Soil (earth)
- Water



Susceptible host

- Any person, especially those receiving healthcare.



Portal of entry

- Broken skin/incisions
- Respiratory tract
- Mucous membranes
- Catheters and tubes



Portal of exit

- Open wounds/skin
- Splatter of body fluids
- Aerosols



Mode of transmission

- Contact (direct or indirect)
- Ingestion
- Inhalation



BREAK THE CHAIN!

- ✓ Hand hygiene
- ✓ Personal protective equipment
- ✓ Personal hygiene
- ✓ First aid
- ✓ Removal of catheters and tubes



BREAK THE CHAIN!

- ✓ Hand hygiene
- ✓ Personal protective equipment
- ✓ Food safety
- ✓ Cleaning, disinfection, sterilization
- ✓ Isolation

BREAK THE CHAIN!

- ✓ Hand hygiene
- ✓ Personal protective equipment
- ✓ Control of aerosols and splatter
- ✓ Respiratory etiquette
- ✓ Waste disposal



APIC
Association for Professionals in
Infection Control and Epidemiology

Learn how healthcare professionals can break the chain of infection:

www.apic.org/professionals

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