Breaking the Chain

Preventing Infection in Long-term Care

Chain of Infection:

A series of events that has to happen to enable germs to cause infections.



Disease-causing microbes such as:

- Bacteria
- Viruses
- Parasites
- Fungi

Host of infection where it lives & reproduces such as:

- Human
- Environment
- Animal





Portal of Exit

Route infectious agents leave reservoir such as:

- Nose
- Blood
- Mouth
- Urine

Method or route an organism transfers from a reservoir to a susceptible host such as:

- Contaminated Surfaces
- Aerosolized drops
- Intermediate Vectors

Modes of Transmission



Portals of Entry

Site through which a pathogen can enter the susceptible host and cause infection such as:

- IV Catheter
- Mucus Membranes
- Foley

A person who is potentially vulnerable to infection such as:

- Elderly
- Sick

