



PARTICIPANT BOOKLET

Introduction to Reservoirs: Where Germs Live

Session 3

Body and Healthcare Environment Reservoirs: Synthesis

Project Firstline Infection Control Training Toolkit



U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention



Overview

Session 3: Body and Healthcare Environment Reservoirs: Synthesis

Learning Objectives

- Describe infection control risks associated with the human body and healthcare environment reservoirs, and pathways for germs to be spread from them.
- Identify strategies to address common infection control risks associated with the human body and healthcare environment reservoirs.

Key Takeaways

- The places where germs usually live are called “reservoirs.” Germs frequently spread between and among reservoirs.
- There are reservoirs in the human body: the skin; the digestive, or gastrointestinal (GI) system, or “gut”; the respiratory system; and blood.
- There are also reservoirs in the healthcare environment: water and wet surfaces; dry surfaces; dirt and dust; and devices.
- Infection control actions are connected to how germs can be spread to and from these reservoirs to different areas of the body, from one person to another, from people to things, or from things to people.
- Knowing where germs live and how they can be spread can help you understand why infection control actions work to stop them from spreading and making people sick.

Body Reservoir _____

I Know	I Think I Know	I Want to Know

Environment Reservoir _____

I Know	I Think I Know	I Want to Know

Notes





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