# Infection Control: Best Clinical Practices

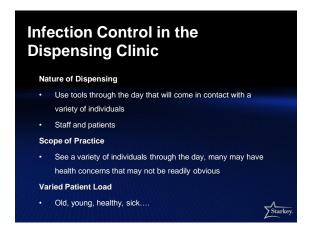
## Infection Control: Best Clinical Practices • This course is worth 1/.1 CEU credit • You must stay logged on for the entire session • You must successfully complete a short multiple-choice quiz

## Infection Control: Best Clinical Practices •If you are having technical difficulties, please stay logged on and contact Audiology Online at 8—753-2160, ext. 3.



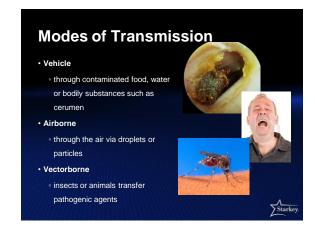
## •'......conscious management of the clinical environment for purposes of minimizing or eliminating the potential spread of disease' Bankaitis & Kemp, 2003, 2004

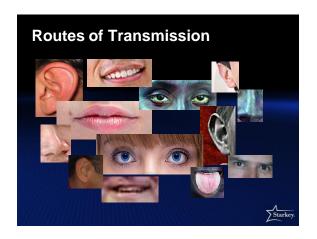


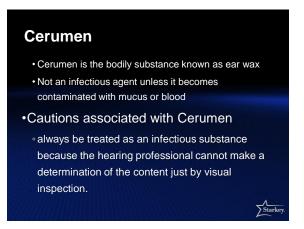




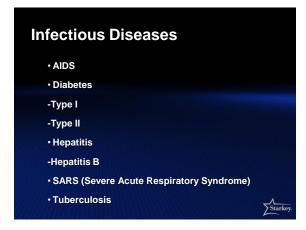








## Opportunistic Infection Hallmarks of immunocompromise Immune systems such as the very young, elderly or those with reduced immune capacity such as the HIV Ubiquitous organisms Commonly found in our environment and gain access to the body via the standard routes Infect an immunocompromised system If we are not using appropriate infection control



## Infectious Diseases • External Ear Canal-prone to infection: is more prone to infection than any other skin surface • Cerumen's Role • inhibit microbial growth • External Ear Canal and moisture • As the ear canal retains moisture, the ear canal's ph level changes to a more neutral or alkaline level, one that is more conducive to bacterial or fungal growth.

"Is there something growing on that hearing aid?"

Common Opportunistic Infection

• Mycobacterium

• Otitis Media, Otitis

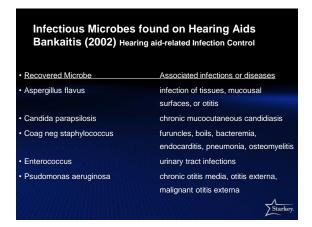
Externa, Polyps

• Staphylococcus aureus

• Otitis Media

• Otitis Media

• Otitis Externa











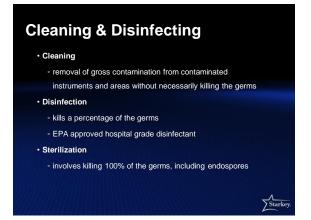


















### **Engineering and Work Controls**

- Engineering Controls: procedures that isolate or remove bloodborne pathogen hazards from the workplace
  - storage of re-usable instruments that will be sterilized at the end of the day
  - specific room for sterilization procedures
  - · labeling area as hazardous



### **Engineering and Work Controls**

- Work Controls: profession specific procedures performed to reduce the risk of cross contamination
- · wearing appropriate barriers like gloves
- altering the manner in which procedures are performed, such as cerumen management, to reduce risk



### Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)

 MSDS: informational label that outlines hazards associated with the use of chemical products found in our work environment



### **Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)**

- · MSDS: obtained from the manufacturer
  - OSHA requires that these forms should be stored in close proximity to where the materials are used
  - MSDS sheets are available for products sold by Starkey
    - impression material, monomer, polymer, and adhesives
    - Contact Customer Service to obtain MSDS sheets for these products.



## Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA)

- OSHA: the regulatory agency responsible for implementation of safety protocols in the workplace
  - Requires a written infection control plan in a healthcare setting



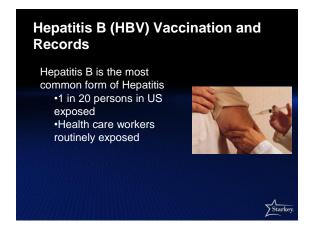
### **OSHA** Requirements

- 1. Employee Exposure Classification
- Hepatitis B (HBV) Vaccination Plan and Records of Vaccination
- 3. Training Plan and Records
- 4. Implementation Protocols
- 5. Post Exposure Plans and Records















### **Implementation Protocols**

- •OSHA requires a development of a protocol for use in cases of exposure
  - Ex: what to do in case of a fall, nosebleed or vomiting
  - Includes directions to avoid touching of bodily fluids and blood



### **Post-Exposure Plan and Records**

- · If exposure occurs, follow-up is required
  - Confirm if transfer of disease has or has not occurred
  - olf needed, begin treatment
  - Confirm outcome of treatment



### **Post-Exposure Plan and Records**

- · Records of the exposure need to be kept
  - · Circumstances of the exposure
  - Route of exposure
  - Treatment
  - Outcome of treatment



## Implementation of Infection Control Plan

- All staff need to understand infection control and be able to implement the plan
  - · Clinical Staff
  - Administrative Staff
- Achieved through proper training, cleaning, disinfecting and sterilizing



## **Best Practices in the Dispensing Office**

- ·Wash hands before/after patient contact
- ·Clean tools/earphones after each use
- Use storage device to accept hearing aids
   from patient and transfer them about the office
- Use personal Protective Equipment when handling/modifying hearing instruments



### Infection Control FAQ's

- Is bar soap acceptable for hand hygiene procedures?
  - ∘ No. Medical grade, liquid soap in a closed container



### Infection Control FAQ's

- Why is it inappropriate to top off a liquid soap container?
  - olt can lead to contamination of the soap

### Starkey

### Infection Control FAQ's

- Why do I have to implement hand hygiene procedures after the removal of gloves?
  - Gloves may be contaminated



### Infection Control FAQ's

- Do I always wear gloves when handling hearing aids or impressions?
  - No. If the aid has been cleaned and disinfected, gloves are not necessary. In some cases, it may be more practical to wear gloves.



## **Infection Control: Best Clinical Practice**

- Dispensing practices
  - · Considered healthcare providers
  - Thus under OSHA



## Infection Control: Best Clinical Practice

- Best Clinical Practices
  - Requires following OSHA standards for infection control



## Infection Control: Best Clinical Practice

- Universal Precautions
  - Follow recommendations for protection
  - Hand washing
  - · Cleaning, disinfecting and sterilizing





