

Introduction to Reservoirs: Where Germs Live

Session 2

Healthcare Environment Reservoirs



Welcome

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Four Healthcare Environment Reservoirs
- Discussion
- Bringing It Together
- Conclusion



Acknowledgement

- This Project Firstline Presentation is brought to you by the North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH), Division of Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology, and presented by NDDoH Infection Prevention Consultants.
- All presenters have been trained on Project Firstline materials in correlation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Introductions



Eric Akosah Appiah,
BSN

- Bismarck, ND
- Infection Prevention Consultant
- Project First Line Facilitator

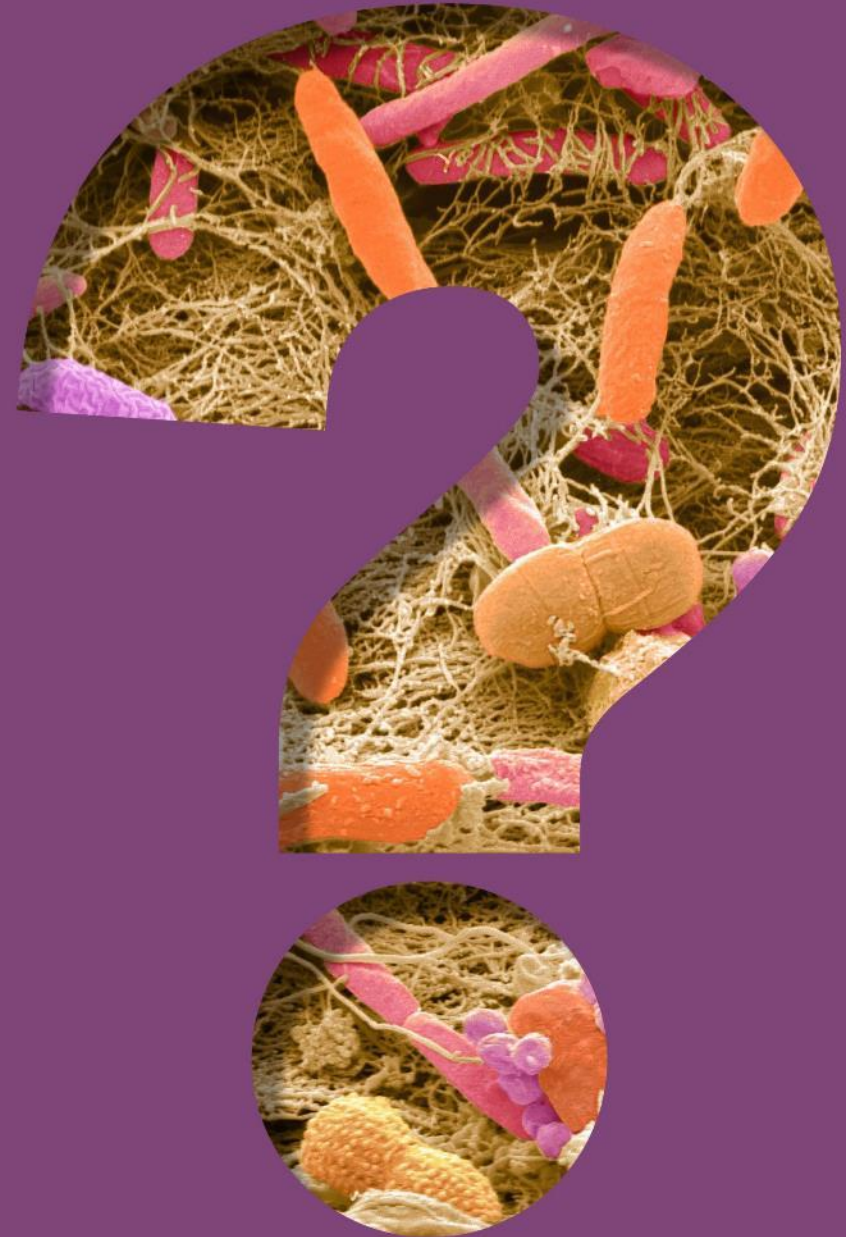
Introductions



Sherry Walters RN BSN

- Devils Lake Area
- Infection Prevention Consultant
- Project Firstline Facilitator

Who is in the room



Reservoirs in the Healthcare Environment

Water and Wet Surfaces

Sinks and faucets
Drains
Ice machines
Therapy pools



Dry Surfaces

Bed rails
Door handles
Countertops
Bed curtains



Dirt and Dust

Construction
Maintenance
Repair
Renovation



Devices

Stethoscope
Blood pressure cuff
Endoscope
Artificial hip



There's more to water than meets the eye.

Germs can grow in water and wet places, like sinks. Those germs can spread to other surfaces, devices, and people.



**Recognize the risks.
Take action to stop the spread of germs.
Learn more at [CDC.GOV/PROJECTFIRSTLINE](https://www.cdc.gov/projectfirstline)**

Water and Wet Surfaces Reservoir

- Water is used in many ways in healthcare.
- Tap water is safe to drink, but it is not sterile.
- Water and wet surfaces can be good places for germs to grow.

Pathways:

- Touch
- Splashes and sprays
- Breathing in



Water and Wet Surfaces: Taking Action





GERMS CAN LIVE ON DRY SURFACES.

Dry Surfaces Reservoir

- Germs found on the body, in the air, and in stool can also be found on dry surfaces
- Includes “high-touch” surfaces: bed rails, door handles, light switches

Pathways:

- Touch
- Breaking down or bypassing the body’s defenses



Dry Surfaces: Taking Action



Everyone uses and shares devices in healthcare.

Shared devices like pulse oximeters can spread germs.

Recognize the risks.
Take action to stop the spread of germs.
Learn more at [CDC.GOV/PROJECTFIRSTLINE](https://www.cdc.gov/projectfirstline)

Devices Reservoir

- Often in contact with multiple surfaces and people
- Used **on** a patient's body (stethoscope, blood pressure cuff)
- Used **in** a patient's body (IV needle, endoscope, artificial hip)

Pathways:

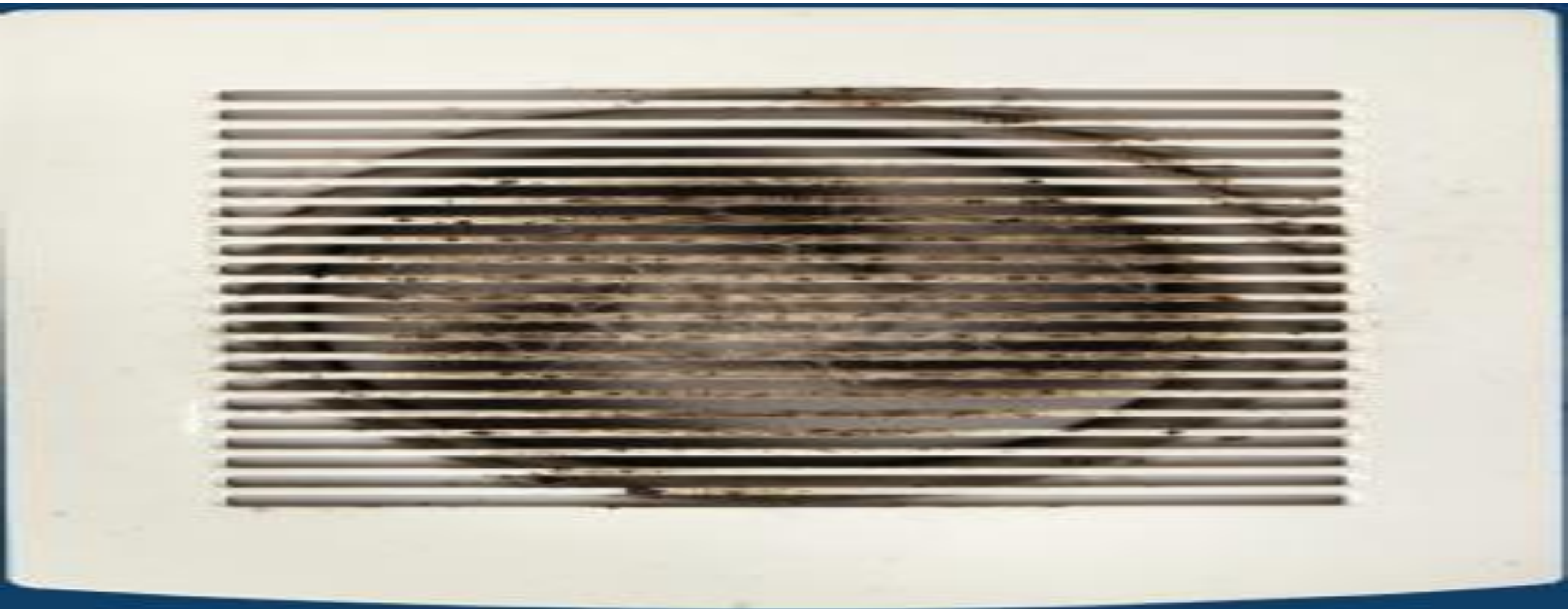
- Breaking down or bypassing the body's defenses
- Touch



Devices: Taking Action



Dirt and Dust Reservoir

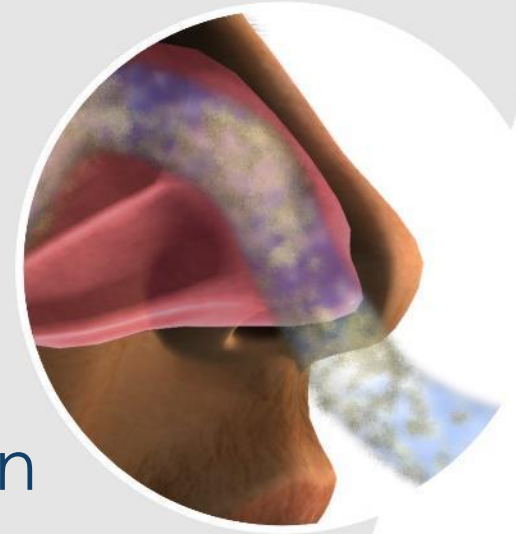


Dirt and Dust Reservoir

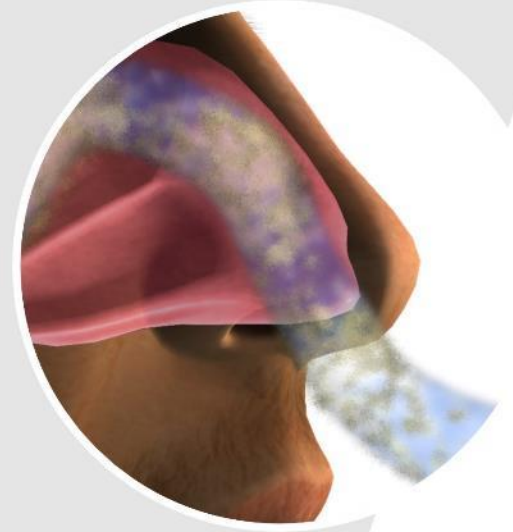
- Dirt, soil, and dust from both outdoors and indoors have germs in them that can be carried through the air.
- Germs in dirt and dust can harm certain patients.

Pathways:

- Breathing in
- Touch



Dirt and Dust Taking Action



Questions



**Water and
Wet Surfaces**



Dry Surfaces



Dirt and Dust



Devices

REFLECTION



Key Takeaways

- ✓ "Reservoirs" are the places on and in our bodies and in the environment where germs live. Germs frequently spread between and among these reservoirs.
- ✓ Four reservoirs in the healthcare environment that are important for infection control are water and wet surfaces; dry surfaces; dirt and dust; and devices.
- ✓ Understanding where germs live helps us recognize where there is risk for them to be spread and why infection control actions work to stop them from spreading and making people sick.

How to Get Involved and Feedback



Project Firstline on CDC.gov:
<https://www.cdc.gov/infection-control/projectfirstline/index.html>



CDC's Project Firstline on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/CDCProjectFirstline>



CDC's Project Firstline on Twitter:
https://twitter.com/CDC_Firstline



Project Firstline *Inside Infection Control* on YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvvp9iOILTQZQGtDnSDGViKDdRtlc13VX>



To sign up for Project Firstline e-mails, click here:
https://tools.cdc.gov/campaignproxyservice/subscriptions.aspx?topic_id=USCDC_2104

- Project Firstline feedback form:
<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/pdf/projectfirstline/TTK-ParticipantFeedback-508.pdf>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/projectfirstline/healthcare/interactive-Diarrhea-Dilemma.html>

Evaluation

Take the end of course evaluation for NDBON CEU certificate:

https://ndhealth.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ebta1vhNsxV61GS

If you are a room moderator for a group attending under one login, fill out the Group Attendance Form. EACH attendee will need to complete the evaluation form. Submit all forms to dohpfl@nd.gov

Recordings can be found on:
www.health.nd.gov/projectfirstline

Questions? Email us: dohpfl@nd.gov

Call us: (701)-328-2378

