

TOPIC 15: VENTILATION



AGENDA

- Introductions
- How Does Ventilation Work?
- Why Does Ventilation Matter?
- Reflection

WE ARE **PROJECT FIRSTLINE**

CS320316-1



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Discuss why **good ventilation is important** for infection control in healthcare.
- Discuss one (1) way that **ventilation works to reduce the amount of germs in the air.**
- Describe one (1) reason why **it is important not to take steps to improve ventilation yourself**, without working with the staff in your facility in charge of air handling and ventilation.

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 COVID-19 Nurse Consultants.

All presenters have been trained on Project Firstline materials in correlation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

INTRODUCTIONS

Please introduce yourself with:

- Your role (e.g., organization, unit)
- Whether your job has responsibilities related to ventilation



INTRODUCTIONS



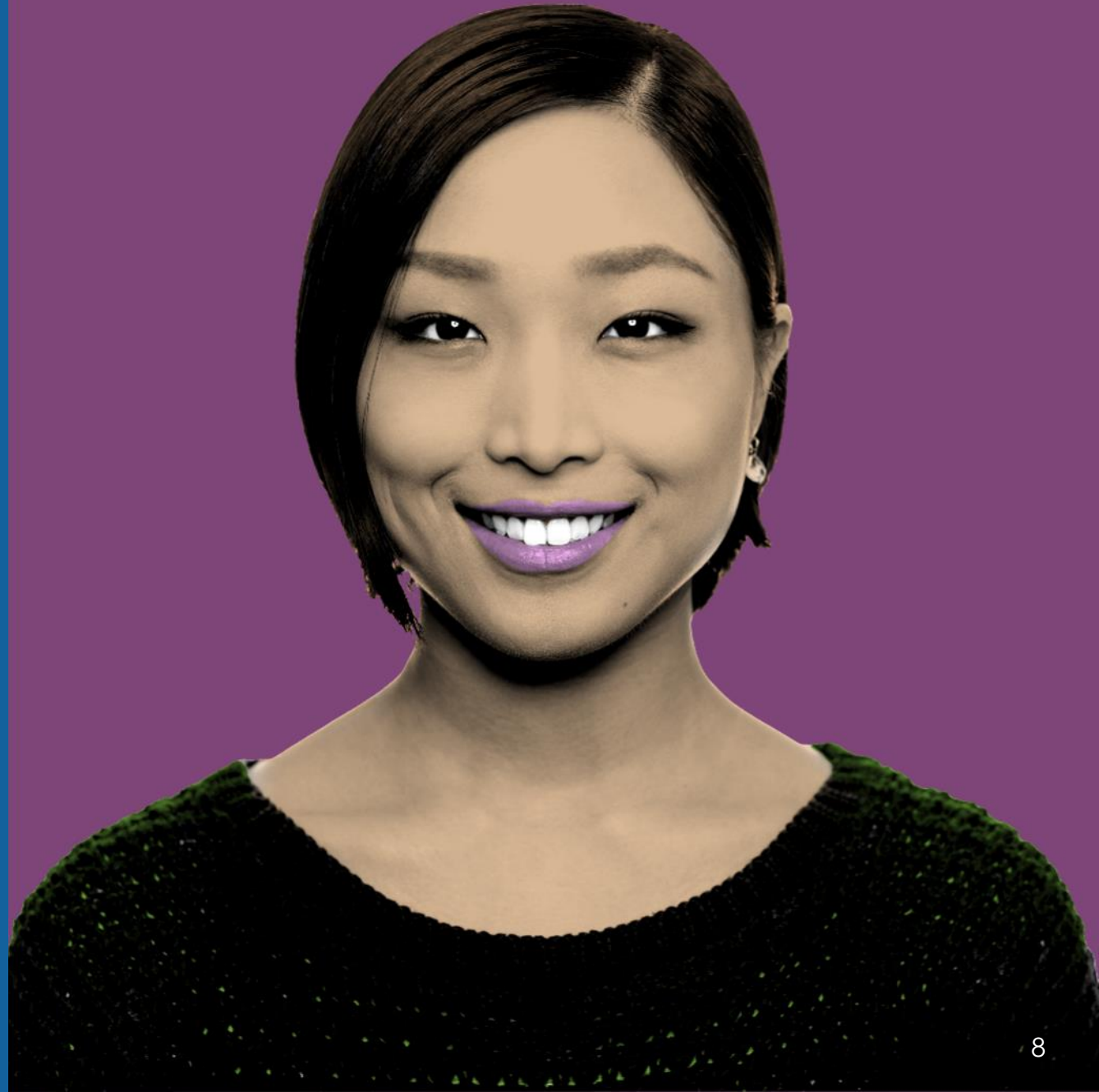
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INTRODUCTIONS



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How does
ventilation play a
role in our lives?



DEFINITION

Ventilation



The movement of air in and out of an enclosed space. For example, the circulation of fresh air to a room or building.

WHAT IS VENTILATION

INSIDE INFECTION CONTROL

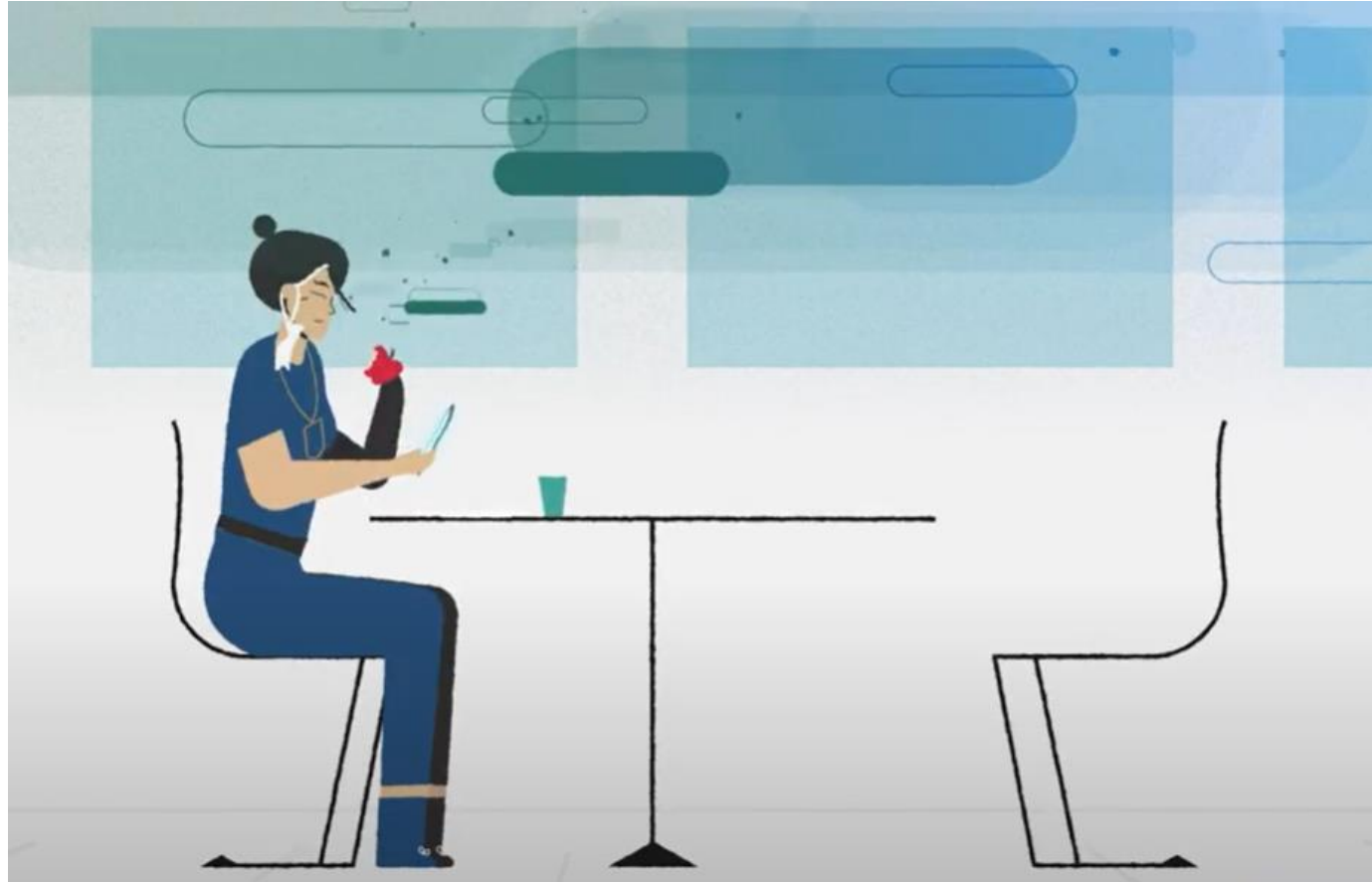
WHAT IS VENTILATION?

EPISODE 17

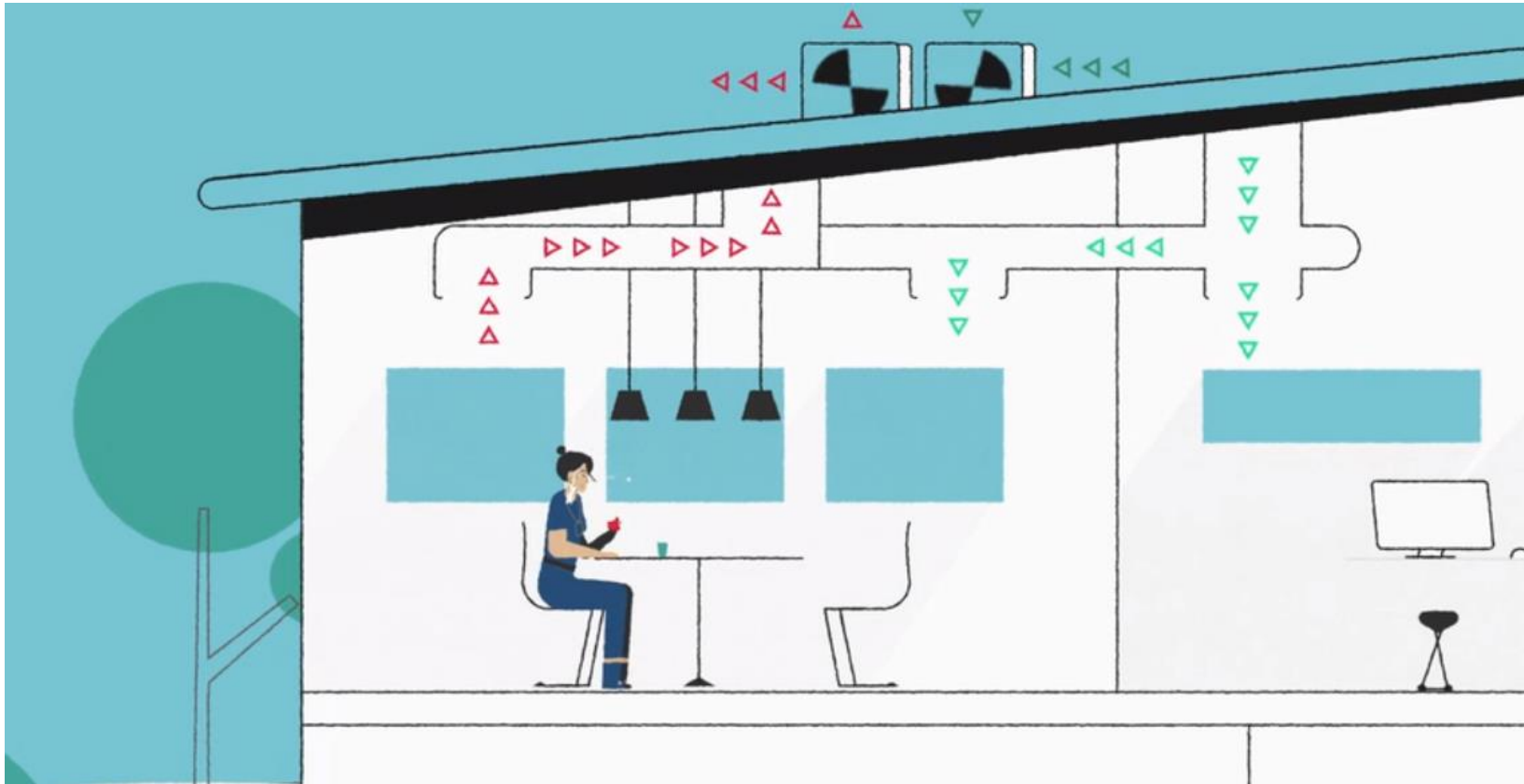
 

HOW DOES VENTILATION WORK?

HOW DOES VENTILATION WORK?



GOOD VENTILATION



Do you know how
ventilation is
handled at your
workplace?



WHY DOES VENTILATION MATTER?

INSTRUCTIONS

While watching the video:

- Think about your workday.
- Jot down instances when your actions at work may impact ventilation.

INSIDE INFECTION CONTROL

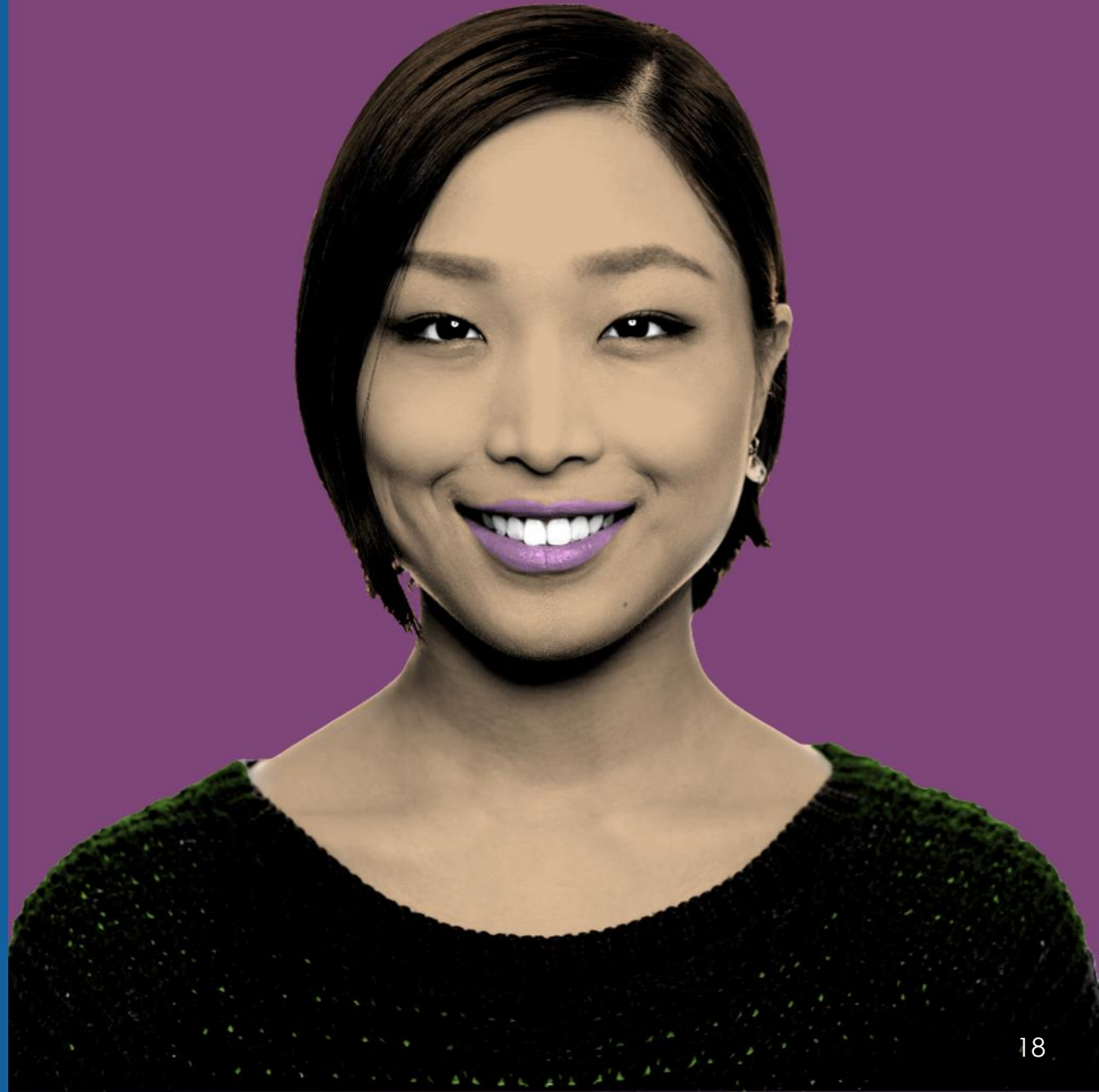
WHY DOES VENTILATION MATTER?

EPISODE 18



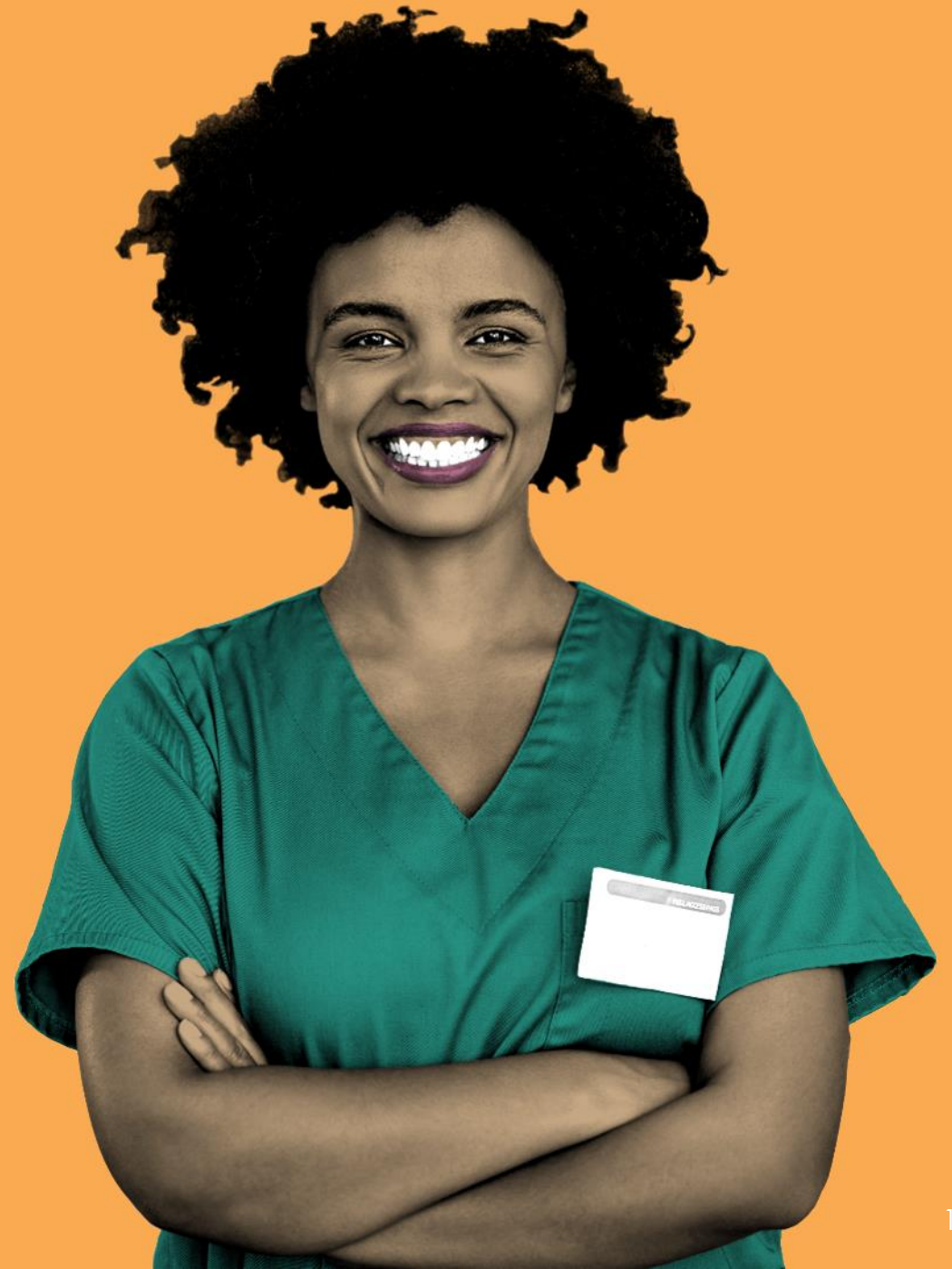
Ventilation in Healthcare

What you need to know about ventilation



What could poor ventilation do?

Lower than standard air changes may lead to increase spread of diseases.



STEPS TO SUPPORT GOOD VENTILATION

- **Know how long** it takes for the air, in certain rooms, such as patient rooms, to clear.
- If you're entering a room without recommended PPE, **make sure the air in the room is cleared first.**
- **Don't take actions on your own** to change how air is handled.
- **Have questions? Ask** the person with responsibility for air filtration and ventilation at your facility.

REFLECTION

- What is one action that you could take to **support good ventilation in your workplace?**
- Type one action in the chat.

VENTILATION IN HEALTHCARE SETTINGS

In healthcare settings, ventilation is important because it helps remove things from the air that we don't want to breathe in - like small virus particles. Good ventilation improves air quality and reduces the risk of germs spreading.

WHAT TO KNOW



Understand what an air change is and why recommended air changes per hour are important in healthcare.

- An air change means the air in a room is replaced with new air.
- Air changes are usually measured by the hour - air changes per hour (ACH).
- In healthcare facilities, nearly every type of room has a recommended number of ACHs to help reduce the risk of germs spreading among patients and staff.



Respect wait times to allow the air in rooms to clear.

- The infection prevention or clinical leaders in your area, like your nurse manager, will use the ACH to figure out how long a room should sit empty after a patient with a possible or confirmed respiratory infection has left.
- It is okay to enter a room before the air is completely cleared, including while the patient is still there, if you use the recommended personal protective equipment (PPE).



Ask before making changes to the ventilation in a room.

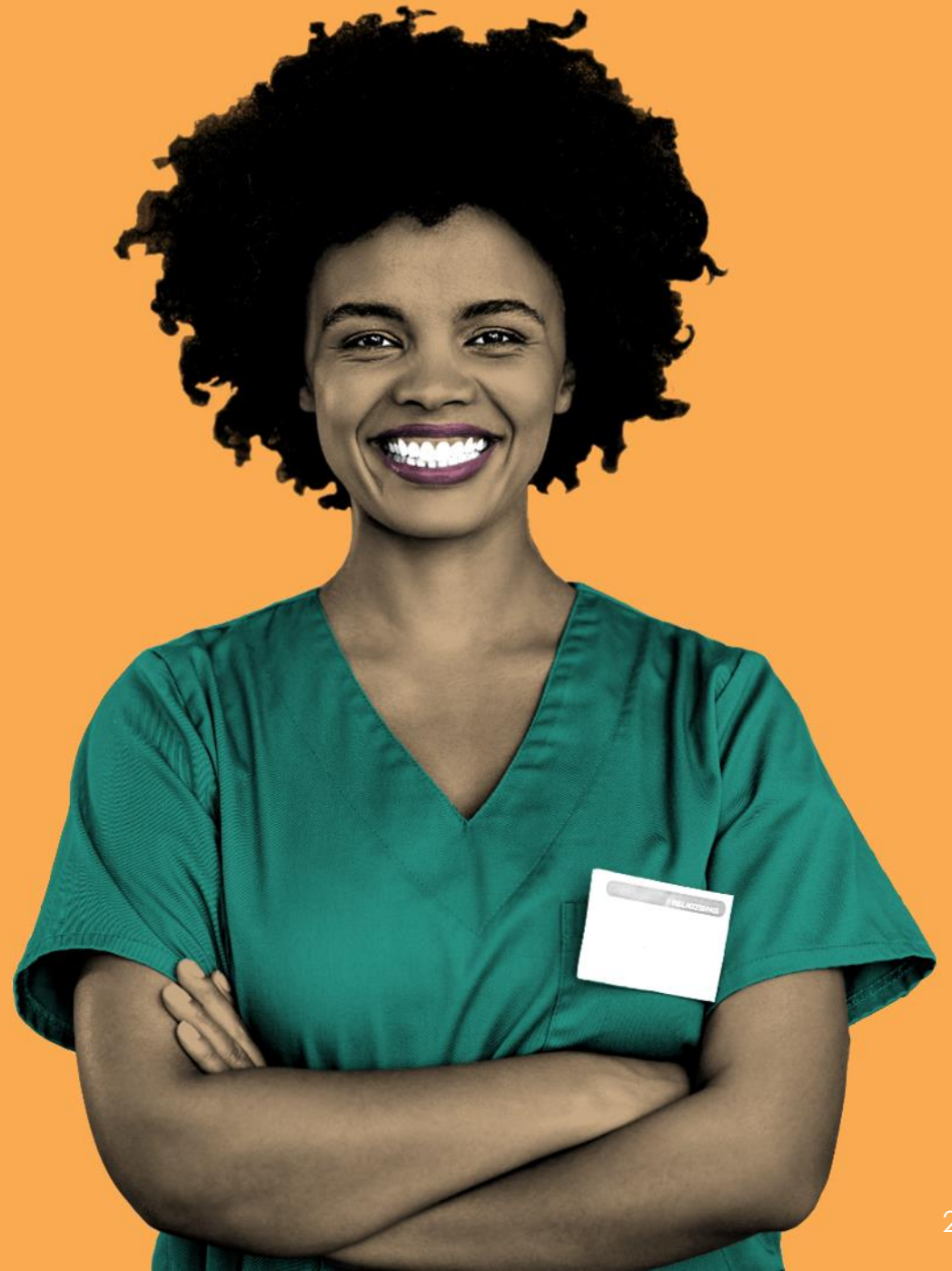
- Rooms are often connected in healthcare facilities.
- Making a change to the ventilation in one room - like opening a window or closing vents to adjust temperature - can change the ventilation in other places, too.
- That's why it's important to talk to the person or team at your facility that is responsible for maintaining air filtration and ventilation if you have concerns about the ventilation in a room.



Make sure vents are not blocked.

- A blocked vent could prevent the ventilation system from functioning like it is supposed to.

Questions?



RESOURCES AND FUTURE TRAINING SESSIONS

Project Firstline on CDC:

https://www.cdc.gov/infection_control/projectfirstline/index.html

Project Firstline on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/CDCProjectFirstline/>

Twitter:

https://twitter.com/CDC_Firstline

YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvrp9iOILTQZQGtDnSDGViKDdRtlc13VX>

To sign up for Project Firstline e-mails, click here:

https://tools.cdc.gov/campaignproxyservice/subscriptions.aspx?topic_id=USCDC_2104

An assessment of outpatient clinic room ventilation systems and possible relationship to disease transmission - American Journal of Infection Control (ajicjournal.org)

[https://www.ajicjournal.org/article/S0196-6553\(21\)00023-7/fulltext](https://www.ajicjournal.org/article/S0196-6553(21)00023-7/fulltext)

EVALUATION

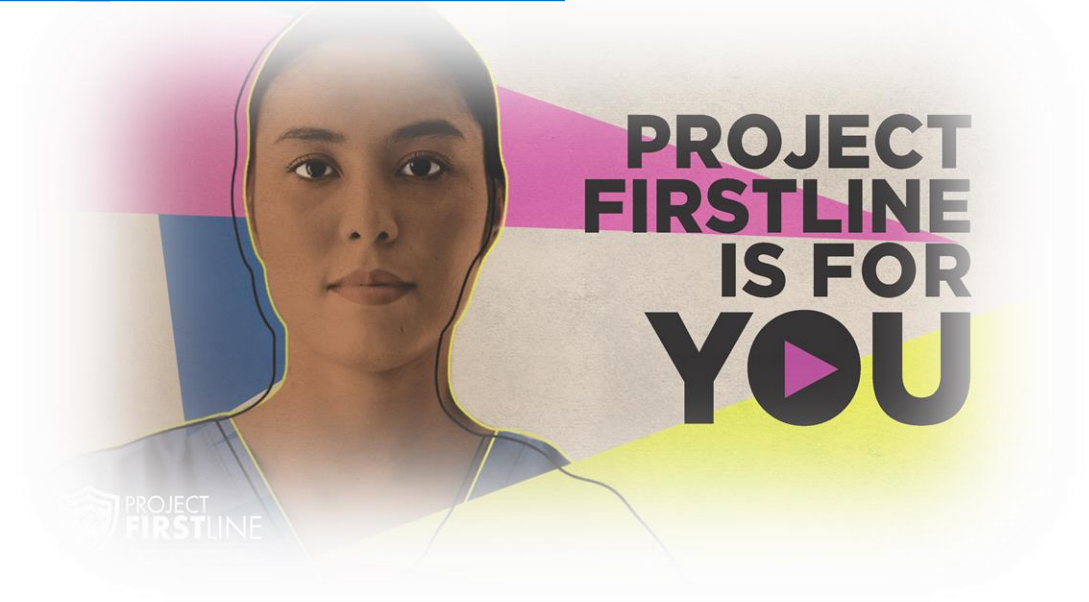
Take the end of course evaluation for CEU certificate:

https://ndhealth.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9XN1t449RffaCkS

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

Recordings can be found on:

www.health.nd.gov/projectfirstline



Questions? Email us: dohpfl@nd.gov

Call us: (701)-328-2378