

Title:	Causes and Spread of Infection.
Level:	2
Credit value:	2
GLH:	20
Unique Reference Number:	K/616/2587
Sector Subject Area:	1.3 Health and Social Care
Aim:	The aim of this unit is to provide learners with the skills and knowledge to be able to understand the causes of infection and common illnesses that may result as a consequence. To understand the difference between both infection and colonisation and pathogenic and non-pathogenic organisms, the areas of infection and the types caused by different organisms. In addition the learner will understand the methods of transmission, the conditions needed for organisms to grow, the ways infection enters the body and key factors that may lead to infection occurring.
Assessment Type:	Assessment of this unit will be through an internally set and internally assessed portfolio of evidence.
Assessment Guidance:	Assessment decisions for skills-based learning outcomes must be made during the learner's normal work activity. Skills-based assessment must include direct observation as the main source of evidence and must be carried out over an appropriate period of time.

Learning outcomes

The learner will:

1. Be able to understand the causes of infection

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to understand infectious agents such as bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites, including the common illnesses and infections they cause. Learners will explore the concepts of infection and colonisation, as well as systemic and localised infections. They will also identify poor practices that contribute to the spread of infection and learn how to apply this knowledge to improve their own professional practice, ensuring safe and effective infection control.

The learner must:

- 1.1 Identify the differences between bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites.
- 1.2 Identify common illnesses and infections caused by bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites.
- 1.3 Describe what is meant by “infection” and “colonisation”.
- 1.4 Explain what is meant by systemic infection and localised infection.
- 1.5 Identify **poor practices** that may lead to the spread of infection.
- 1.6 Identify how an understanding of **poor practices**, can be applied to own professional practice.

2. Be able to understand the transmission of infection.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to understand the conditions necessary for the growth of micro-organisms, the pathways through which infective agents enter the body, and the common sources and modes of transmission of infection. Learners will also explore the key factors that increase the likelihood of infection and the role of national public health bodies in managing communicable disease outbreaks, fostering a comprehensive approach to infection prevention and control.

The learner must:

- 2.1 Explain the conditions needed for the growth of micro-organisms.
- 2.2 Explain the ways an infective agent might enter the body.
- 2.3 Identify common sources of infection.
- 2.4 Explain how infective agents can be transmitted to a person.
- 2.5 Identify the key factors that will make it more likely that infection will occur.
- 2.6 Discuss the role of a national public health body in communicable disease outbreaks.

Scope of Training

The Scope of Training identifies areas that must be covered during the delivery of this unit. This is the minimum that is expected but tutors are expected to include other areas,

knowledge of which will benefit their learners, based on location, types of work available and from the tutors own professional experience.

Requirements	
Poor Practices	Poor practices: soiled linen and clinical waste should be covered for 1.5 and 1.6

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