



**Prevention of  
Postpartum  
Hemorrhage:  
Implementing Active  
Management of the  
Third Stage of Labor  
(AMTSL)**

**Participant's Notebook**

**Additional Topic 1:  
Infection prevention**



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**POPPHI**

Prevention of Postpartum  
Hemorrhage Initiative

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## Classroom learning activities

### Infection prevention interactive game

<b>Infection prevention knowledge interactive game</b>	
<b>Purpose</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Present basic information on infection prevention in an easy and enjoyable way.</li> <li>▪ Allow participants the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge.</li> </ul>
<b>Duration</b>	30 minutes
<b>Instructions</b>	<p>The facilitator divides participants in teams. The objective is to be the first team to complete their circle. A team can fill in one-sixth of the circle each time they get a correct answer in one of each of the following six categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hand-washing.</li> <li>▪ Protective gear.</li> <li>▪ Handling sharps.</li> <li>▪ Preventing splashes.</li> <li>▪ Waste disposal.</li> <li>▪ Instrument processing.</li> </ul>
<b>Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Each team has 15–20 minutes to answer the questions.</li> <li>▪ Record your answers on the question sheet.</li> <li>▪ Keep the answers simple and do not take a long time with any one question.</li> <li>▪ Once each team has finished their questions, the game begins. The first team chooses a topic and a question, reads the question aloud, and has 10 seconds to provide their answer.</li> <li>▪ If correct, the team colors in one-sixth of its circle and writes next to the circle the name of the topic from which the question came.</li> <li>▪ A team may only answer one question per topic.</li> <li>▪ If incorrect, the next team gets to answer that question or another question they choose.</li> <li>▪ Once answered correctly, no other team may use that question.</li> <li>▪ The facilitator will clarify answers during the discussion after the question is correctly answered.</li> <li>▪ The next team takes a turn.</li> </ul>
<b>Goal</b>	The first team to complete its circle by coloring in all six pieces (representing six correct answers on six different topics) is the winner and receives the prize.



### Category 1: Hand-washing

For each practice or situation described below, select whether it is an acceptable or unacceptable handwashing practice.

Practice	Answer (circle one)
1. A doctor washes his hands by dipping them in a basin of water before examining a patient.	Acceptable / Unacceptable
2. If there is no running water at a clinic, one staff member pours water over the other's hands for handwashing.	Acceptable / Unacceptable
3. A large bar of soap is kept in a saucer for use by all personnel in the examination room.	Acceptable / Unacceptable
4. Staff members wash their hands for approximately 5 seconds.	Acceptable / Unacceptable
5. A staff member arrives at the clinic to find many people waiting for her, so she immediately begins seeing clients without washing her hands.	Acceptable / Unacceptable

## Category 2: Protective gear

For each practice or situation described below, select whether it is an acceptable or unacceptable infection prevention practice.

Practice	Answer (circle one)
1. Put gloves in the labor room sink after use.	Acceptable / Unacceptable
2. Rub the fundus after delivery of the placenta without using gloves.	Acceptable / Unacceptable

In the space provided, circle *True* or *False* for each statement.

3. Protective gear should be worn when handling a baby after delivery, before the infant is bathed.	True / False
4. Gloves provide a barrier against possible infectious microorganisms that can be found in blood, other body fluids, and waste.	True / False
5. Even when gloves are decontaminated, cleaned, and high level disinfected, they should not be used if there are holes in them.	True / False



### Category 3: Handling sharps

In the space provided, circle *True* or *False* for each statement.

Practice	Answer (circle one)
1. Injuries with sharp objects occur when sharps are left on surgical drapes or bed linens.	True / False
2. To reduce the risk of a needlestick, recap a needle by holding the syringe in one hand and holding the needle in the other hand.	True / False
3. Housekeeping staff are rarely at risk of injury or infections caused by sharps—such as hypodermic needles or scalpel blades—because they are not directly involved in client-care activities.	True / False

For each of the practices described below, select whether it is an acceptable or unacceptable infection prevention practice:

4. Break a hypodermic needle before disposal.	Acceptable / Unacceptable
5. Wash a needlestick or cut with soap and water.	Acceptable / Unacceptable

#### Category 4: Preventing splashes

For each practice or situation described below, select whether it is an acceptable or unacceptable infection prevention practice.

Practice	Answer (circle one)
1. The provider drops instruments into a bucket with decontamination solution to avoid contact with the solution.	Acceptable / Unacceptable
2. The provider artificially ruptures membranes during a contraction to prevent splashes.	Acceptable / Unacceptable
3. Irrigate eyes well with water when blood or body fluids splash in them.	Acceptable / Unacceptable
4. If you accidentally get blood or body fluids on your hands, wash with a 0.5 percent chlorine solution.	Acceptable / Unacceptable
5. Hold contaminated instruments under the water while scrubbing.	Acceptable / Unacceptable



### Category 5: Waste disposal

In the space provided, circle *True* or *False* for each statement.

Practice	Answer
1. Everyone who handles medical waste—from the point generated until final disposal—is at risk of infections and injury.	True / False
2. If medical waste is stored at the health facility before being burned, it can be placed in a pile behind the clinic.	True / False
3. Liquid medical waste can be poured down a sink, drain, toilet, or latrine.	True / False
4. Burial sites for medical waste should not be located near water sources because of the potential to contaminate the water.	True / False
5. Scavenging of medical waste is rarely a problem in low-resource settings.	True / False

## Category 6: Instrument processing

In the space provided, circle *True* or *False* for each statement.

Practice	Answer (circle one)
1. Decontamination kills all microorganisms on soiled instruments and other items.	True / False
2. When preparing a chlorine solution for decontamination, it is important to know the amount of active chlorine in the product used.	True / False
3. Cleaning instruments before sterilizing them is not necessary if they were soaked in a 0.5 percent chlorine solution for 10 minutes	True / False
4. Sterilizing may not be effective if blood and other organic material are not cleaned from instruments before sterilizing.	True / False
5. High-level disinfection kills all microorganisms.	True / False



## Individual learning activities

Based on the safety practices discussed previously, **what changes should you or your facility make to improve infection prevention practices?** Review the precautions, think about your current practices and situation, and then write your specific answers below. Discuss these changes with your supervisor.

**Hand-washing:**

**Wearing protective clothing:**

**Wearing appropriate gloves:**

**Preventing splashes:**

**Preventing needlesticks:**

**Handling the placenta:**





## Answers to learning activities: Additional Topic 1

### Infection Prevention Review

Answers to the learning game are found below.

Other questions in the learning activities do not have "correct" answers – learners are asked to evaluate their working conditions and should write down the problems they encounter with infection prevention in their work places.

#### Category 1: Handwashing

For each practice or situation described below, select whether it is an acceptable or unacceptable hand washing practice.

Practice	Answer (circle one)
1. A doctor washes his hands by dipping them in a basin of water before examining a patient.	<b>Unacceptable: Hands can be contaminated by dipping them in a basin of water. Standing water can easily become contaminated even if antiseptic is added.</b>
2. If there is no running water at a clinic, one staff member pours water over the other's hands for hand washing.	<b>Acceptable: If there is no running water, this practice is an acceptable substitute, as long as the water being poured is clean.</b>
3. A large bar of soap is kept in a saucer for use by all personnel in the examination room.	<b>Unacceptable: Small pieces of soap kept in a dish that allows drainage are best. A large bar of soap in a dish with no drainage can become contaminated easily.</b>
4. Staff members wash their hands for approximately five seconds.	<b>Unacceptable: Staff must wash their hands for 10-15 seconds.</b>
5. A staff member arrives at the clinic to find many people waiting for her, so she immediately begins seeing clients without washing her hands.	<b>Unacceptable: Staff should wash their hands when they arrive and before they leave a health facility.</b>

## Category 2: Protective gear

For each practice or situation described below, select whether it is an acceptable or unacceptable infection prevention practice.

Practice	Answer (circle one)
1. Put gloves in the labor room sink after use.	<b>Unacceptable: Gloves should be decontaminated immediately after use and then cleaned and high level disinfected or sterilized.</b>
2. Rub the fundus after delivery of the placenta without using gloves.	<b>Unacceptable: The woman's abdomen can be contaminated by body fluids and blood during countertraction and skin-to-skin contact with the newborn and exam gloves should be worn to protect the provider.</b>

In the space provided, circle true or false for each statement.

3. Protective gear should be worn when handling a baby after delivery, before the infant is bathed.	<b>True</b>
4. Gloves provide a barrier against possible infectious microorganisms that can be found in blood, other body fluids, and waste.	<b>True: Gloves act as a barrier.</b>
5. Even when gloves are decontaminated, cleaned, and high level disinfected, they should not be used if there are holes in them.	<b>True</b>



### Category 3: Handling sharps

In the space provided, circle true or false for each statement.

Practice	Answer (circle one)
1. Injuries with sharp objects occur when sharps are left on surgical drapes or bed linens.	<b>True: Sharp objects left on drapes or bed linen can cause injuries.</b>
2. To reduce the risk of a needle stick, recap a needle by holding the syringe in one hand and holding the needle in the other hand.	<b>False: You should avoid recapping needles.</b>
3. Housekeeping staff are rarely at risk of injury or infections caused by sharps—such as hypodermic needles or scalpel blades—because they are not directly involved in client-care activities.	<b>False: Housekeeping staff are often at risk of injury or infection by sharps</b>

For each of the practices described below, select whether it is an acceptable or unacceptable infection prevention practice:

4. Break a hypodermic needle before disposal.	<b>Unacceptable: Providers are at risk when breaking a needle after using it and before disposal. Sharps can cause injury and transmission of serious infections, including HIV and hepatitis B.</b>
5. Wash a needle stick or cut with soap and water.	<b>Acceptable: A needle stick or cut may be washed with soap and water</b>

### Category 4: Preventing splashes

For each practice or situation described below, select whether it is an acceptable or unacceptable infection prevention practice.

Practice	Answer (circle one)
1. The provider drops instruments into a bucket with decontamination solution to avoid contact with the solution.	<b>Unacceptable: Place items in the decontamination bucket without splashing the solution.</b>
2. The provider artificially ruptures membranes during a contraction to prevent splashes.	<b>Unacceptable: Avoid rupturing membranes during a contraction to prevent splashes</b>
3. Irrigate eyes well with water when blood or body fluids splash in them.	<b>Acceptable</b>
4. If you accidentally get blood or body fluids on your hands, wash with a 0.5 percent chlorine solution.	<b>Unacceptable: If blood or body fluids get in your mouth or on your skin, wash with plenty of water and soap as soon as it is possible and safe for the woman and baby.</b>
5. Hold contaminated instruments under the water while scrubbing.	<b>Acceptable: Holding instruments and other items under the surface of the water while scrubbing and cleaning will help prevent splashing.</b>



### Category 5: Waste disposal

In the space provided, circle true or false for each statement.

Practice	Answer
1. Everyone who handles medical waste—from the point generated until final disposal—is at risk of infections and injury.	<b>True: A large percentage of staff report having experienced waste-related injuries and infection.</b>
2. If medical waste is stored at the health facility before being burned, it can be placed in a pile behind the clinic.	<b>False: Place waste in a container in a closed area that is minimally accessible, and make sure all containers have lids.</b>
3. Liquid medical waste can be disposed down a sink, drain, toilet, or latrine.	<b>True: If this is not possible, bury it along with solid medical waste.</b>
4. Burial sites for medical waste should not be located near water sources because of the potential to contaminate the water.	<b>True</b>
5. Scavenging of medical waste is rarely a problem in low-resource settings.	<b>False</b>

## Category 6: Instrument processing

In the space provided, circle true or false for each statement.

Practice	Answer (circle one)
1. Decontamination kills all microorganisms on soiled instruments and other items.	<b><i>False: Decontamination kills viruses such as HIV and many--but not all--other microorganisms.</i></b>
2. When preparing a chlorine solution for decontamination, it is important to know the amount of active chlorine in the product used.	<b><i>True: It is important to know the amount of active chlorine in order to make a solution of the correct strength for decontamination.</i></b>
3. Cleaning instruments before sterilizing them is not necessary if they were soaked in a 0.5 percent chlorine solution for 10 minutes	<b><i>False: Although decontamination makes items safer to handle, cleaning is still necessary to remove organic material, dirt, and other matter that can interfere with further processing.</i></b>
4. Sterilizing may not be effective if blood and other organic material are not cleaned from instruments before sterilizing.	<b><i>True: It is important to clean items before sterilization; microorganisms trapped in blood and other matter can survive the sterilization process.</i></b>
5. High-level disinfection kills all microorganisms.	<b><i>False: HLD does not reliably kill all bacterial endospores.</i></b>