**Topic: The Concept of Infection Control**

**Why do we do infection control?**

The ultimate goal of everything we do in infection control for any disease is to keep people from getting sick.

Infection control is a practical, evidence-based approach used to prevent patients and healthcare workers from being harmed by avoidable infections. We don’t want our patients to get sick when they come to see us for care, and it’s equally important that they don’t get us sick as we’re providing that care.

The right infection control practices such as hand hygiene, wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), and cleaning and disinfection can stop germs from spreading in healthcare facilities.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been a challenging time in healthcare and has put a spotlight on the importance of infection control and how it is a daily part of all frontline healthcare staff’s professional role.

**Project Firstline – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s National Training Collaborative**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)’s Project Firstline initiative is a national collaborative aimed at providing engaging, innovative and effective infection control training for frontline healthcare workers as well as members of the public health workforce.

Project Firstline aims to reach healthcare workers in a variety of healthcare settings including:

- Hospitals
- Dialysis Centers
- Nursing Homes
- Outpatient Clinics

Project Firstline’s content is designed so that regardless of a healthcare worker’s previous training or educational background, they can understand and confidently apply the infection control principles and protocols necessary to protect themselves, their facility and their community.

Over the coming weeks we will be sending newsletters with tools and resources for a variety of topics to support your infection control efforts.

*Please reach out to InfectionPrevention@team-iha.org if you have any questions or comments.*