

# Preventing Infection in Care

Infection Prevention and Control:  
Care Homes for Older People and  
Home Environment



## Introduction to the Standard Infection Control Precautions

There are 10 elements to the standard infection control precautions providing international guidance on infection prevention and control.

The Standard Infection Control Precautions – sometimes called SICPs are the necessary precautions that all health and social care staff must adhere to, to reduce the risk of transmission of micro-organisms from both recognised and unrecognised sources of infection.

As staff responsible for the care of older people, some of whom may be particularly vulnerable to infections, you need to be aware of all 10 and be able to assess when there is a risk and when infections may be present to minimise possible exposure and spread.

The 10 Standard Infection Control Precautions are:

1. Hand Hygiene
2. Personal Protective Equipment
3. Respiratory Hygiene and Cough Etiquette
4. Management of Blood and Body Fluid Spillage
5. Occupational Exposure Management
6. Control of the Environment
7. Management of Care Equipment
8. Providing Care in the Most Appropriate Place
9. Management of Linen
10. Safe Management of Waste

Each of these elements is explored in more detail on this DVD. After watching each programme you should carry out the tasks and activities in your workbook. This will help to strengthen your learning and to enhance your skills and knowledge around infection prevention and control.