GERMS LIVE IN "THE GUT."

WHERE IS THE RISK?
Know where germs live to stop spread and protect patients

• The gut is filled with bacteria and some yeasts, which are part of a healthy immune system.

• Most gut germs don’t cause problems in healthy people, but they can cause infection when they spread.

• Germs in stool can spread onto hands and skin when wiping or changing a diaper.

Germs That Live in the Gut
• E. coli
• Klebsiella
• Candida
• Clostridiodes difficile (C. diff)

Healthcare Tasks Involving the Gut
• Toileting/changing diapers
• Bathing a patient
• Laundry

Infection Control Actions to Reduce Risk
• Hand hygiene
• Use of personal protective equipment (gloves and gowns)
• Cleaning and disinfection
• Textile management
• Waste management

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