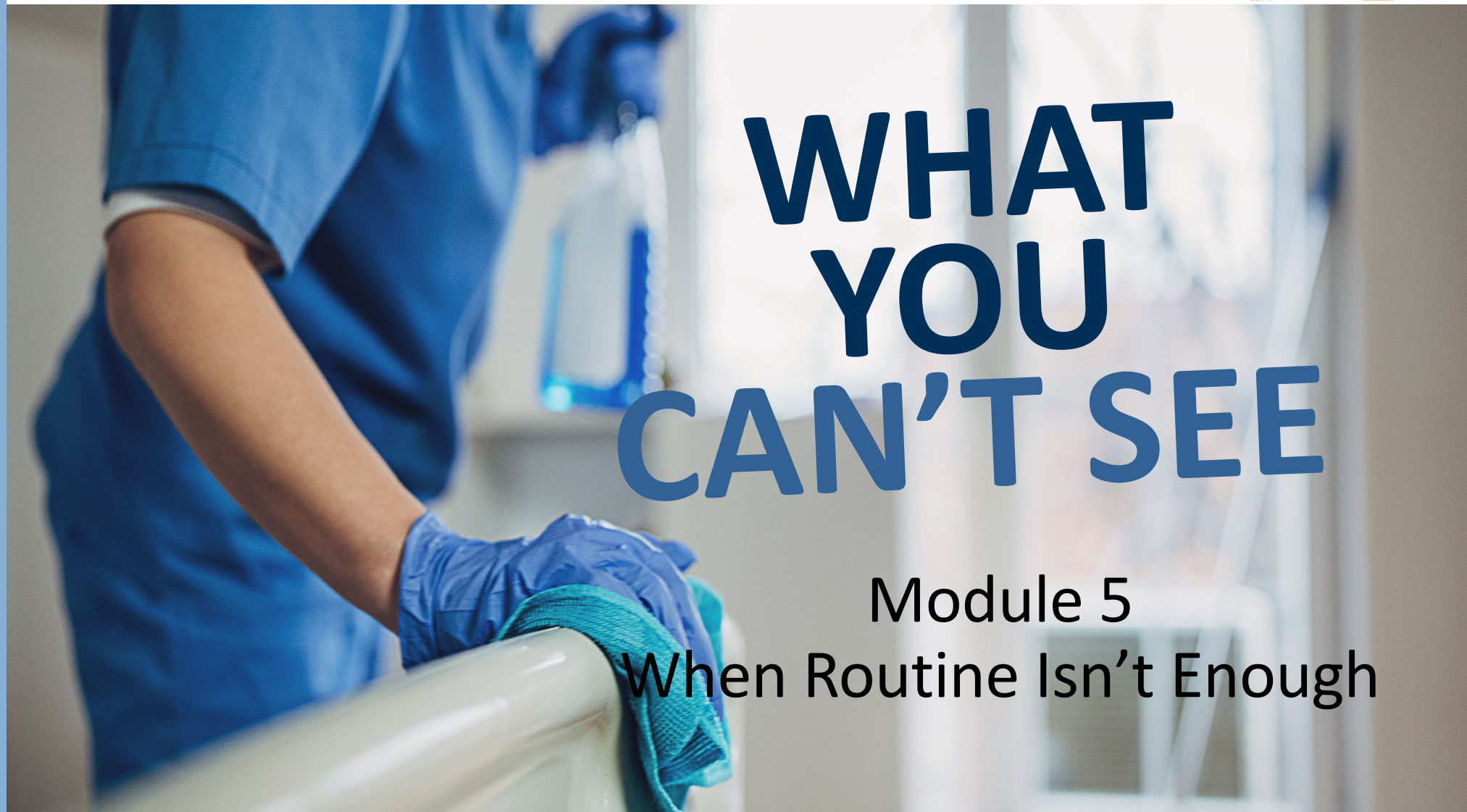
South Dakota
Department of Health



WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE

Module 5
When Routine Isn't Enough

“Special Situations and putting it all together.”



When routine isn’t enough

YOU ALREADY KNOW MORE THAN YOU THINK

Everything in this series has been building toward one way of thinking:

SEE THE RISK | FOLLOW THE HANDS | PREPARE | READ THE LABEL | CLEAN + DISINFECT

But sometimes the situation changes, and you are left wondering what to do.



A precaution sign. Vomiting or diarrhea. A blood or body-fluid spill. A patient or resident leaves the room after an illness or infection.

That's when you must: STOP • NOTICE • CHECK • ADAPT

SOMETHING IS DIFFERENT TODAY



You arrive to clean the room.

You notice:

- A precaution sign
- Patient has vomiting/diarrhea
- A body-fluid spill

Before you begin…

Ask what changes do I need to make today.

Don't guess. Check the precautions, product, PPE, and facility policy.

THE SIGN ON THE DOOR IS INFORMATION



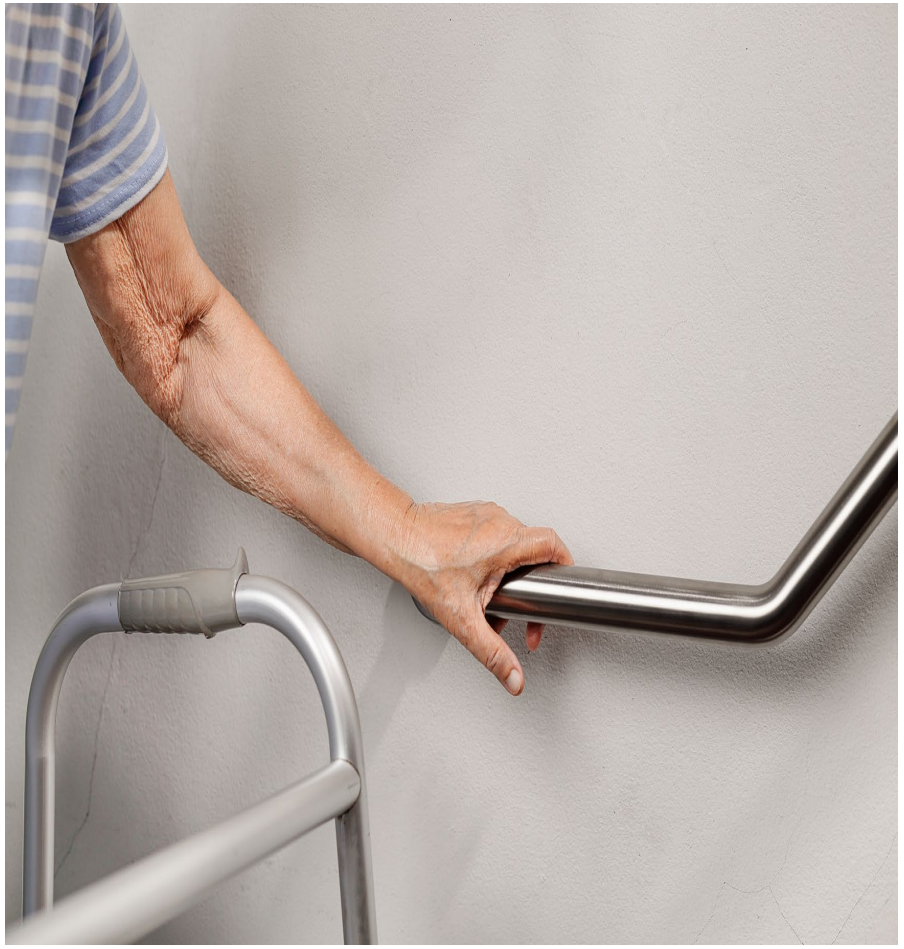
Precautions are not just for nursing.

Before cleaning:

- **STOP**
- **READ**
- **ASK if you're unsure**
- **GET what you need**
- **THEN enter**

The sign helps you choose the right PPE, supplies, and product.

C. DIFFICILE: SPORES CHANGE THE PLAN



C. difficile can form spores that persist in the environment. These spores are difficult to kill.

PRODUCT Use the sporicidal product your facility specifies and follow the label. This is generally a bleach product.

PROCESS Pay close attention to high-touch surfaces and thorough cleaning.

HAND HYGIENE Follow precautions and facility hand-hygiene guidance. Soap and water for hand hygiene is recommended for C Difficile spores.

PPE: Use gloves and gown.

The organism may change the plan—
But not the importance of doing the basics well.

Vomiting and Diarrhea

The visible mess may not be the entire contaminated area.

1. **Protect:** *Use PPE based on the task and the expected exposure.*
2. **Contain:** *Keep from spreading to equipment and other surfaces.*
3. **Clean:** *Remove visible soil/material according to facility procedure.*
4. **Disinfect:** *Use the appropriate product and follow the label.*
5. **Communicate:** *Report concerns immediately to supervisor.*



Think beyond the spot you can see.

BLOOD & BODY-FLUID SPILLS: PROTECT YOURSELF FIRST

DON'T RUSH IN.

Pause long enough to protect yourself and control the area.



PPE	Choose PPE for the exposure.
CONTAIN	Prevent spreading contamination.
CLEAN	Remove the spill/material safely.
DISINFECT	Use the facility-approved product as directed.
HAND HYGIENE	Finish the task safely.

Follow your facility's blood/body-fluid spill procedure.

THE PATIENT LEFT. DID THE GERMS?



A room can be empty and still hold risk.

Terminal cleaning is your chance to reset the environment for the next person.

- Use a systematic approach
- Prioritize high-touch surfaces
- Include bathroom areas
- Address shared/mobile equipment
- Know who cleans what
- Follow precautions.
- Follow product instructions.

NOW YOU SEE IT — FINAL CHALLENGE



How many surfaces can you find that germs may be hiding?

Use everything you've learned—not just what looks dirty.

Now You See it.

Before this series, you may have seen a room. Now you see the risks.

- *You see what people touch.*
- *You see how germs move.*
- *You prepare before you begin.*
- *You know your product.*
- *You know the process matters.*
- *You know when routine is not enough.*

What you can't see

See the risk. Stop the spread.



Thank you for watching.

WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE

See the risk. Stop the spread.

An EVS Microlearning Series.

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