



Infection Prevention & Control

Infection prevention protects patients, caregivers, visitors, and healthcare workers.

Keep this handout for reference. Your 123 GA Home Healthcare staff may review this topic with you and provide a printed copy. This website/PDF copy is available for you and your caregiver to review again at any time.

Clean Hands Matter

- Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially before eating or preparing food and after using the bathroom, coughing, sneezing, or providing personal care.
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer when appropriate if soap and water are not available. Use soap and water when hands are visibly dirty.

Reduce the Spread of Germs

- Cover coughs and sneezes, avoid sharing personal care items, and clean frequently touched surfaces.
- Follow instructions from your care team about masks, gloves, wound supplies, and other infection-control precautions.

Know Possible Signs of Infection

- Possible signs include fever, chills, increasing redness, warmth, swelling, drainage, worsening pain, unusual odor, cough, shortness of breath, or a sudden decline in how you feel.
- Report concerning symptoms promptly, especially if you have a wound, catheter, IV/PICC line, or other medical device.

Important: This handout is general education and does not replace your physician's orders, medication instructions, emergency plan, or individualized Plan of Care. Follow the instructions given specifically to you. For a medical emergency, call 911.