

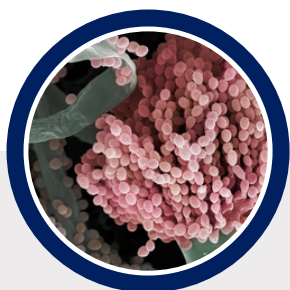
Germs can live in **DIRT AND DUST.**

**KNOW WHERE GERMS LIVE TO STOP SPREAD
AND PROTECT PATIENTS.**



WHERE IS THE RISK?

- Germs live in dirt and soil. The fungus *Aspergillus*, a common germ that can live in dirt, can cause serious illness in some patients who don't have strong immune systems or whose lungs are damaged.
- Building construction can send dust into the air, which can carry germs into a healthcare facility.
- Smaller construction and maintenance projects inside a building – like taking out parts of a wall, removing ceiling tiles, or renovating a room – can also create dust that has germs in it.



GERMS THAT LIVE IN DIRT

- *Aspergillus*
- *Cryptococcus*
- *Bacillus spp.*
- Mold



HEALTHCARE TASKS INVOLVING DIRT AND DUST

- High dusting
- Receiving supplies
- Construction
- Renovation



INFECTION CONTROL ACTIONS TO REDUCE RISK

- Textile management
- Ventilation
- Construction barriers
- Cleaning and disinfection



**PROJECT
FIRST LINE**

CDC's National Training Collaborative
for Healthcare Infection Prevention & Control



**Wood County
Health Department**