

GermS can live on the **SKIN.**

KNOW WHERE GERMS LIVE TO STOP SPREAD AND PROTECT PATIENTS.



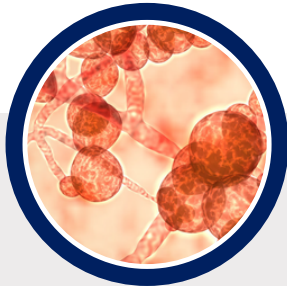
WHERE IS THE RISK?

GermS spread through touch.

- Many germS grow on healthy skin.
- GermS on skin can get onto surfaceS, other people, and thingS that will touch other people.
- Skin – eSpecially handS – carryS many germS and spreadS them eSily.
- When one’s handS touch surfaceS, germS can spread from thoSe surfaceS to that person and to otherS.

GermS spread by bypaSSing or breaking down the body’s deFenSeS.

- Healthcare taSkS often involve breaking the skin.
- Breaking the skin – from putting in an IV, drawing blood, surgery, or trauma – createS a pathway for germS to spread into the body.



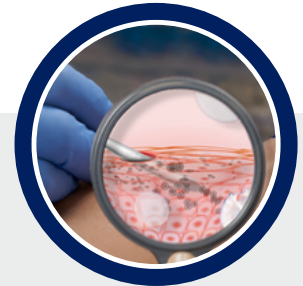
GERMS THAT LIVE ON SKIN

- *Staphylococcus aureus* (staph, including MRSA)
- *Streptococcus* (strep)
- *Candida* (including *C. auris*)



HEALTHCARE TASKS INVOLVING SKIN

- Anything that involveS touch
- NeedleStiCkS
- Surgery



INFECTION CONTROL ACTIONS TO REDUCE RISK

- Hand hygiene
- Appropriate glove uSe
- Cleaning and diSinfection



**PROJECT
FIRST LINE**

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



**Wood County
Health Department**