



TN NHSN User Call

from the Tennessee Department of Health

TN

Monday July 21, 2025

Agenda

- **Respiratory Illness Update**
 - Ashley Gambrell, MPH, CPM
- **NHSN Update**
 - Vicky Lindsey, RN, CIC
- **Dialysis Simulation-Chattanooga**
 - Josh Key, RN
- **Injectable Drug Diversion Workshop**
 - Callyn Wren, PharmD, BCIDP
- **Middle TN APIC Fall Conference**
 - Erica Anderson, BSN, RN, CIC
- **Smoky Mountain APIC Fall Conference**
 - Katherine Buechel, BSN, RN, CIC, LTC-CIP
- **Infection Prevention Office Hours**
 - Donna Russell, MPH, MBA, BSN, RN, CIC, CPH, CHEP
- **The Germ's Ticket to Ride**
 - Angela Terry, RN, M.Ed., CIC

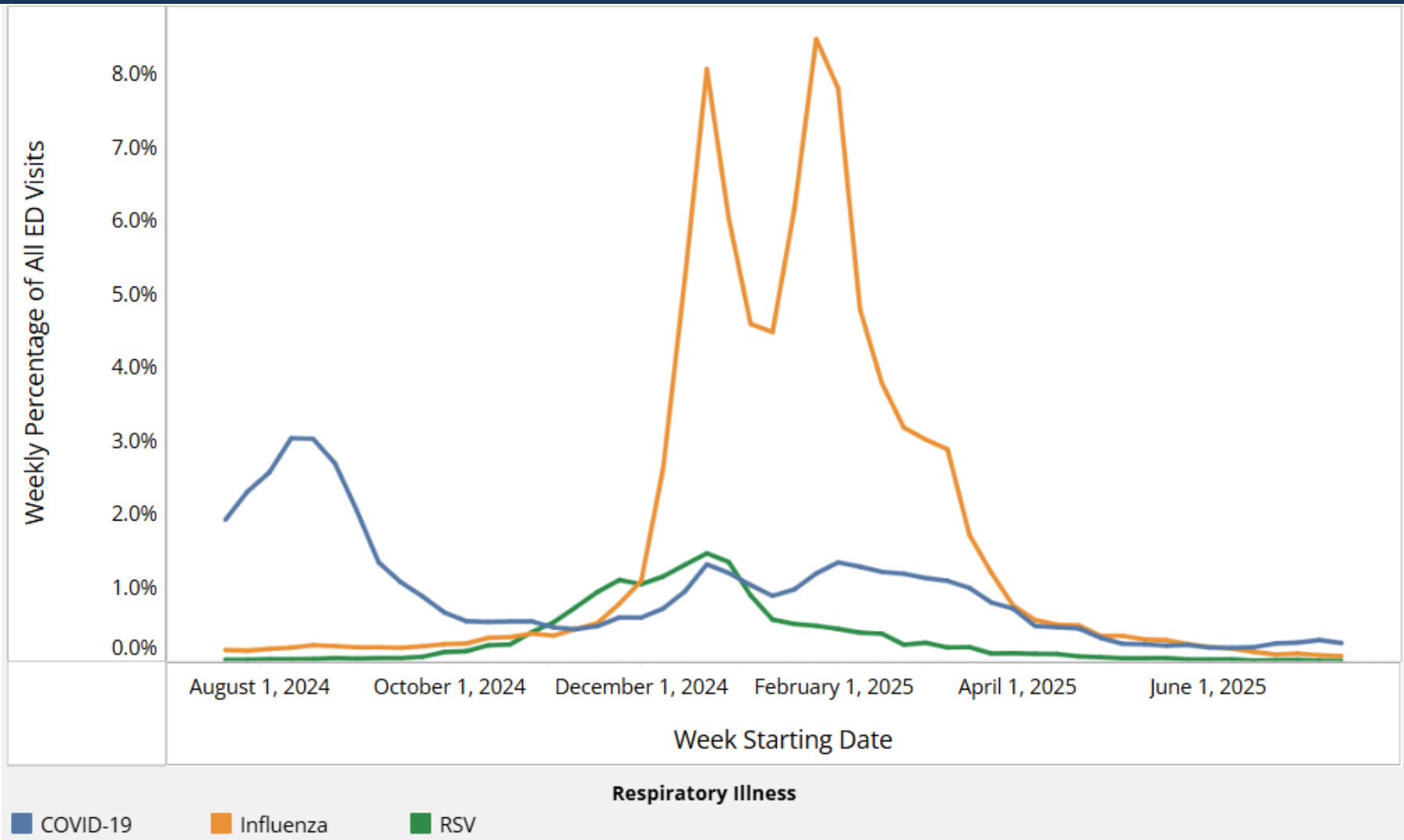
TDH NHSN Team

- **Ashley Gambrell, MPH**
 - **Senior NHSN Epidemiologist**
- **Vicky Lindsey, AAS, RN, CIC**
 - **Senior NHSN Public Health Nurse Consultant**
 - **Lead Technological Assistance**
 - **Infection Prevention and Control Specialist**
- **Marissa Turner, MPH**
 - **Assistant NHSN Epidemiologist**
- **Alex Kurutz, MPH**
 - **Dialysis Epidemiologist**
- **Jordan Morris, MPH**
 - **Assistant NHSN Epidemiologist**

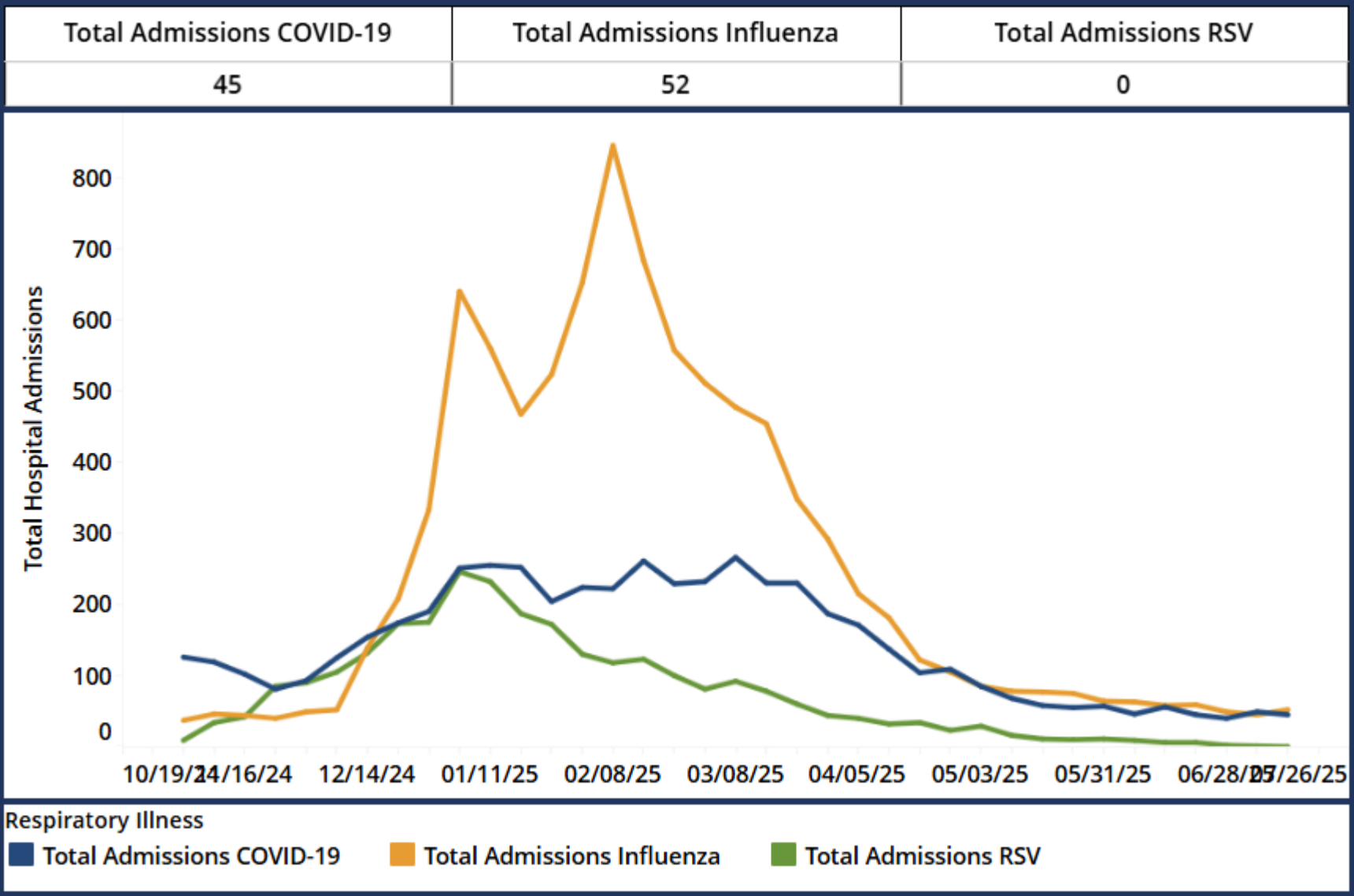
Respiratory Illness Update



Syndromic Surveillance of ED Visits



Statewide Weekly Hospital Admissions



Respiratory Illnesses Data Channel

Overall respiratory illness activity in **Tennessee**

Very Low

Emergency department visits in **Tennessee**

COVID-19

Very Low
Increasing ↗

Flu

Very Low
Decreasing ↘

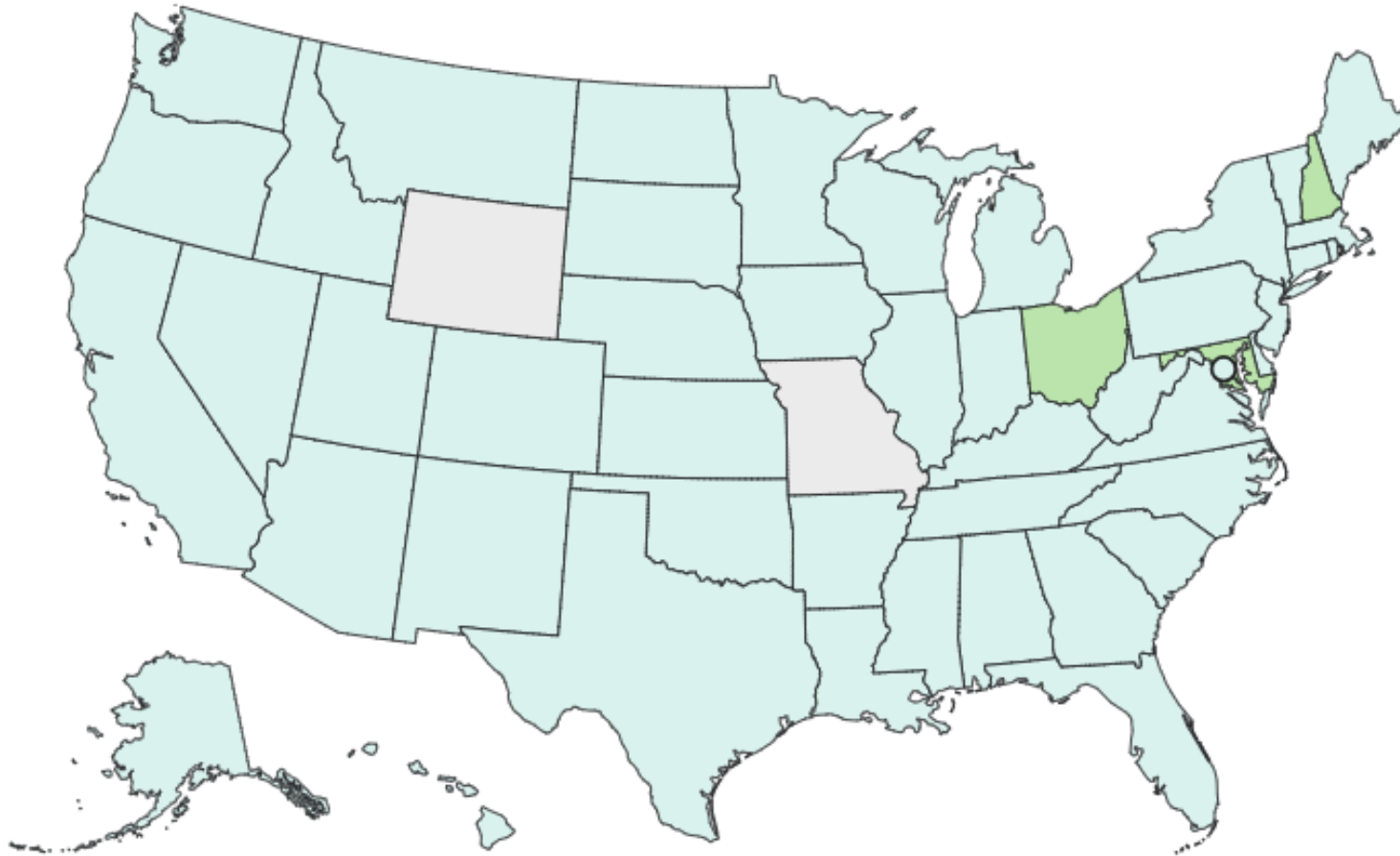
RSV

Very Low
No Change

Bottom Line

Nationally,
**Respiratory
Illness**
causing people to
seek healthcare is

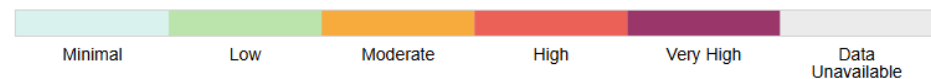
**VERY
LOW**



U.S. territories



Acute Respiratory Illness



Additional Resources

- **TDH Resources**

- [TDH Respiratory Viral Illness Webpage](#)
- [TDH Influenza Information](#)

- **CDC Resources**

- [Protect yourself from COVID-19, Flu, and RSV](#)
- [Respiratory Illnesses Data Channel](#)
- [Infection Control: Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 \(SARS-CoV-2\)](#)
- [Interim Guidance for Managing Healthcare personnel with SARS-CoV-2 Infection or Exposure to SARS-CoV-2](#)



NHSN Updates

Vicky Lindsey, RN, CIC | Tennessee Department of Health | Communicable and Environmental
Diseases and Emergency Preparedness

2025 Q2 (June) NHSN Newsletter

- The 2025 Q2 newsletter is now available on the NHSN website at <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/newsletters/index.html>
- Inside This Issue:
 - Analysis Updates
 - Protocol Updates
 - AUR Module Updates
 - Healthcare Personnel Safety Component Highlights
 - NHSN Dialysis Component Q1 2025 QIP Deadline
 - Retirement of Central Line Insertion Practices (CLIP) Modules
 - Biovigilance Component Hemovigilance Reminders
 - General NHSN Updates
 - NHSN Helpdesk

NHSN Self-Paced Training Resources

- **Self-paced trainings are updated and are available for continuing education. Information about Continuing Education Units (CEUs) can be accessed via this webpage <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/training/continuing-edu.html>.**

NIOSH Rescinds Respirator Approvals

- At the request of the manufacturers, NIOSH rescinded four approvals of [Kimberly-Clark](#) respirators and one approval of an [ivWatch](#) respirator. Respirators with the following approval numbers may no longer be used, manufactured, assembled, sold or distributed:
 - [ivWatch](#) TC-84A-9379
 - [Kimberly-Clark](#): TC-84A-0005, TC-84A-0010, TC-84A-0011, TC-84A-0299

Tennessee State Report on HAIs Update

- The [2023-24 State Report on HAI Facility Specific Summary Data](#) have been released in advance of the 2023–2024 State Report on HAIs.
- These pages provide summary data on acute care facility HAI performance for the period of January 2023–December 2024.
- The complete 2023–2024 State Report on HAIs will be published later this year.




Dialysis Simulation- Chattanooga

Joshua Key, RN | Tennessee Department of Health | Communicable and Environmental Diseases and
Emergency Preparedness

Dialysis Simulation


- **Date:** Tuesday, August 12th
- **Location:** Chattanooga Public Library
Downtown Branch, 4th floor event space
1001 Broad St.
Chattanooga, TN 37042
- **Time:** 8:30 am – 4:00 pm EDT
 - Light breakfast and lunch provided
- Scan QR code to register!






Department of
Health

*The entire program is FREE +
7.25 CEUs offered + lunch
provided!*





Scan here to register!

Hemodialysis Infection Prevention Simulation

***Get 7.25 CEUs
at no cost!**

About the Simulation:

The purpose of this project is to provide CDC guidance on infection prevention covering topics such as CVC, AVF/AVG, environmental disinfection, patient safety, and MORE! Each session will have a classroom style presentation and hands on simulation experiences!

Details for Attendees:

- **Audience:** Hemodialysis Nurses, Technicians, and Infection Preventionists
- **Date:** Tuesday, August 12th, 2025
- **Location:** Chattanooga Public Library - Downtown Branch, 4th floor event space 1001 Broad Street Chattanooga, TN 37402
- **Time:** 8:30 am - 4:00 pm EDT, light breakfast, snacks and lunch provided

For more information email:
HAI.Health@tn.gov

*This activity has been submitted to Georgia Nurses Association for approval to award contact hours. Georgia Nurses Association is accredited as an approver of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation



Drug Diversion

Callyn Wren, PharmD, BCIDP | Tennessee Department of Health | Communicable and Environmental Diseases and Emergency Preparedness



INJECTABLE DRUG DIVERSION WORKSHOP

The purpose of this event is to provide education and awareness to the risks associated with BBP transmission through tabletop exercise and lecture formats.



RSVP by July 21st

✓ Free Program

✓ Lunch provided

✓ Continuing education for this activity is pending. See the final announcement for details.

- July 31st, 2025, 9:00 AM-2:20 PM CDT, University of Memphis FedEx Institute of Technology (365 Fogelman Dr, Memphis, TN 38152)
- August 14th, 2025, 9:30 AM-2:50 PM EDT, Chattanooga Public Library Downtown Branch (1001 Broad St, Chattanooga, TN 37402)



Middle TN APIC Fall Conference

Erica Anderson, BSN, RN, CIC | Tennessee Department of Health | Communicable and
Environmental Diseases and Emergency Preparedness

Middle TN APIC Fall Conference

- September 18, 2025
- 8:15am – 3:45pm
- TN State Library and Archives in Nashville
- \$100 early bird rate
- Lunch provided!

The poster features a green background with a winding road, orange question marks, and yellow stars. At the top, the logo for APIC MIDDLE TENNESSEE is displayed. The main title 'Turning Roadblocks into Stepping Stones' is in large, bold letters, with 'Roadblocks' in red and 'Stepping Stones' in yellow. Below the title, the date and time 'September 18, 2025 8:15am to 3:45pm' are listed. A yellow 'DETOUR' sign with a black arrow pointing right is positioned above a road sign for 'TENNESSEE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES'. The address '1001 Rep John Lewis Way N, Nashville, TN 37219' is provided. To the right, a white circle contains 'REGISTRATION RATES' with details for Early Bird (\$100), Regular (\$125), and Vendor rates (\$400 for supporters, \$500 for others). A QR code for registration is shown in another white circle, with the last date for registration as September 2, 2025. The bottom right features a yellow and black striped road barrier.

APIC MIDDLE TENNESSEE

Turning Roadblocks into Stepping Stones

September 18, 2025 8:15am to 3:45pm

TENNESSEE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES
1001 Rep John Lewis Way N
Nashville, TN 37219

REGISTRATION RATES
Early Bird: \$100
(Through July 31, 2025)
Regular: \$125
(After July 31, 2025)
*Lunch is provided

VENDOR RATES
2025 Meeting Supporter:
\$400
Other: \$500
*2 lunches per table provided

SCAN TO REGISTER

LAST DATE FOR REGISTRATION: SEPT 2, 2025



Smoky Mountain APIC

Katherine Buechel, BSN, RN, CIC, LTC-CIP | Tennessee Department of Health | Communicable and Environmental Diseases and Emergency Preparedness

Smoky Mountain APIC Fall Conference





Infection Prevention & Control Office Hours

Donna Russell MPH, MBA, BSN, RN, CIC, CPH, CHEP
Infection Prevention and Education Programs Manager



The Germ's Ticket to Ride

Disclaimer

- This information is presented following a review of available guidance for disinfection in personal vehicles.
- The viewer may apply critical thinking to reduce risks of pathogen transmission for themselves and for passengers.
- This is not a rule, standard, or official guideline.

Objectives

- Identify pathogens found on vehicle high-touch surfaces.
- Describe transmission opportunities of pathogens to/from passengers.
- Promote infection prevention practices to reduce transmission of pathogens to and from personal vehicles.
- Generate best practice infection prevention/control measures for personal vehicles.

Places to go, people to see, things to do...

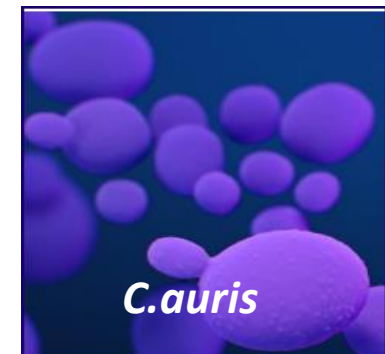
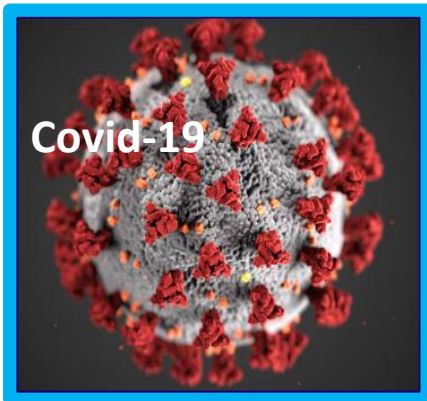
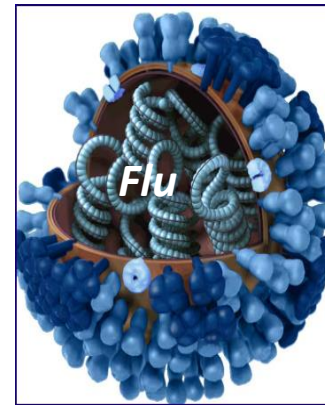
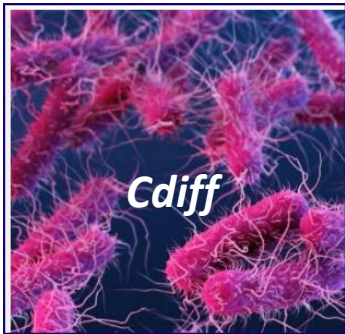
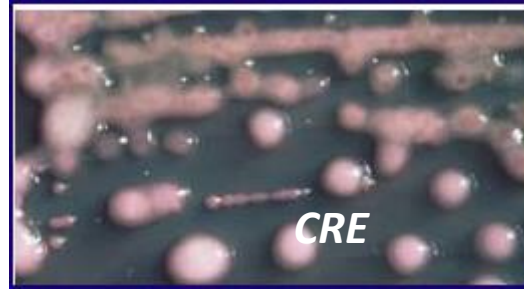


Just get in the car...

- Hands
- Dirt/Dust/Debris/Dander (contaminated clothing)
- Food and Water, containers/wrappers and/or spills
- Sweat/body fluids (contaminated clothing, sick/kids/pets)
- Pollutants- inside and outside air contamination
- Maintenance (lacking)- cabin filters, general cleaning/disinfection

MICROORGANISMS and PATHOGENS

Pathogens



Hit the BREAKS

Driver Controls-

- steering wheel*
- knobs
- shifters*
- handles
- locks
- window
- cruise
- console

Air Quality-

- dirty filters
- recirculating air

Surfaces-

- seats
- trunk/cargo

Specific to MRSA:

- **155** total swabs (30 vehicles, 5-6 swabs each)
- **35** (22.6%) were MRSA, confirmed as *mecA* positive by PCR
- **120** MSSA, sensitive to antibiotics tested

https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC3962071/pdf/gbif30_337.pdf

Infection Prevention on the Go

- Clean/disinfect vehicle at regular intervals.
 - Per MIFUs, look for safe/effective products that won't damage leather/vinyl/plastic/fabric/carpet.
 - Change cabin air filters
 - Eliminate air fresheners with toxins.
 - Clean all surfaces, disinfect the high-touch areas, vacuum upholstery and carpet.
 - Leave vehicle open to air dry after cleaning.
 - Clean spills promptly.
 - Remove “trash” every trip.
 - Consider seat covers that can be washed regularly or barriers as needed (pets, children).

Infection Prevention on the Go

- Hand Hygiene.
 - Eliminate steering/shifter covers that cannot be disinfected.
 - ABHR hands at every entry, for every passenger.
- Wear PPE- Precautions at work- don't get it in the vehicle.
- Change attire- before leaving work, after gym/activities, including shoes.
- Designate a tote, disinfect regularly, (contaminated items).
- THINK- placement of cargo and passengers.
- Fresh attire- don't take pathogens to work/school.

IPC (infection prevention cargo)

- ABHR*
- Cleaning wipes*, paper/washable towels (for cleaning hands, faces, paws, spills/accidents or barriers)
- Disinfectant wipes* (safe for surfaces by manufacturer!)
- Tissues
- Plastic bag(s) for contaminated or wet items and trash

IPC (infection prevention cargo)

- Masks, gloves
- Sanitizing spray* (surfaces, air)
- Tub/tote for containing potentially dirty/contaminated items)
- Extra straws, sporks (sharing is not caring)

***avoid extreme temperatures**

Start Fresh

- Consider factors that may be present on clothing, from home, vehicle, or places visited, when entering the healthcare environment.
 - Scents/Odors
 - Animal hair/dander
 - Personal hygiene
 - Unseen pathogens
- Protect attire from contamination
 - If worn to work, via home, vehicle, public transportation, places
 - If not worn, transport in clean bag/container, store safely until needed

Nugget

- Often Infection Prevention, Quality, Risk Management, and Safety will intersect.
- Please consult with your personal insurance carrier AND your facility administration if you/staff transport residents in personal vehicles.

Resources

[Elucidation of Bacteria Found in Car Interiors...](#)

[A global metagenomic map of urban microbiomes and antimicrobial resistance](#)

[Study reveals the inside of your car is dirtier than the average toilet | Aston University](#)

[Standard Precautions for All Patient Care | Infection Control | CDC](#)

[Transmission-Based Precautions | Infection Control | CDC](#)

[About Escherichia coli Infection | E. coli infection | CDC](#)

[About Pseudomonas aeruginosa | P. aeruginosa | CDC](#)

[About Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacterales | CRE | CDC](#)

[Staphylococcus aureus Basics | Staphylococcus aureus | CDC](#)

[Propionibacterium - an overview | ScienceDirect Topics](#)

[Respiratory Virus Guidance | Respiratory Illnesses | CDC](#)

[Candida auris | Candida auris \(C. auris\) | CDC](#)

[Multidrug-resistant Organisms \(MDRO\) Management Guidelines | Infection Control | CDC](#)

For additional reading, search in your favorite browser for “germs found in cars”

Thank You!

The more you know...

HAI.Health@TN.gov

Questions

- **Pre-submitted Questions**
- **Chat Questions**

Next NHSN User Call

- **Monday August 18, 2025**
 - 10am CT / 11am ET
- **NHSN Related**
 - Vicky.Lindsey@tn.gov
 - Ashley.Gambrell@tn.gov
- **AU/AR Module**
 - Christopher.Evans@tn.gov
- **Infection Prevention**
 - HAHealth@tn.gov