



# Civil Monetary Penalty Reinvestment Project

Upper Cumberland  
Healthcare  
Preparedness Coalition

---

# Problem

- 1.6 to 3.8 million infections occur in US Nursing Homes each year
- Approximately 388,000 deaths occur each year as a result
- Estimated cost if \$637 million upwards to \$2 billion
- 55 – 70% are preventable

Source: Cohen, Catherine C et al. "State focus on health care-associated infection prevention in nursing homes." *American journal of infection control* vol. 42,4 (2014): 360-5. doi:10.1016/j.ajic.2013.11.024



# Facilities work together to protect patients.

## Common Approach *(Not enough)*

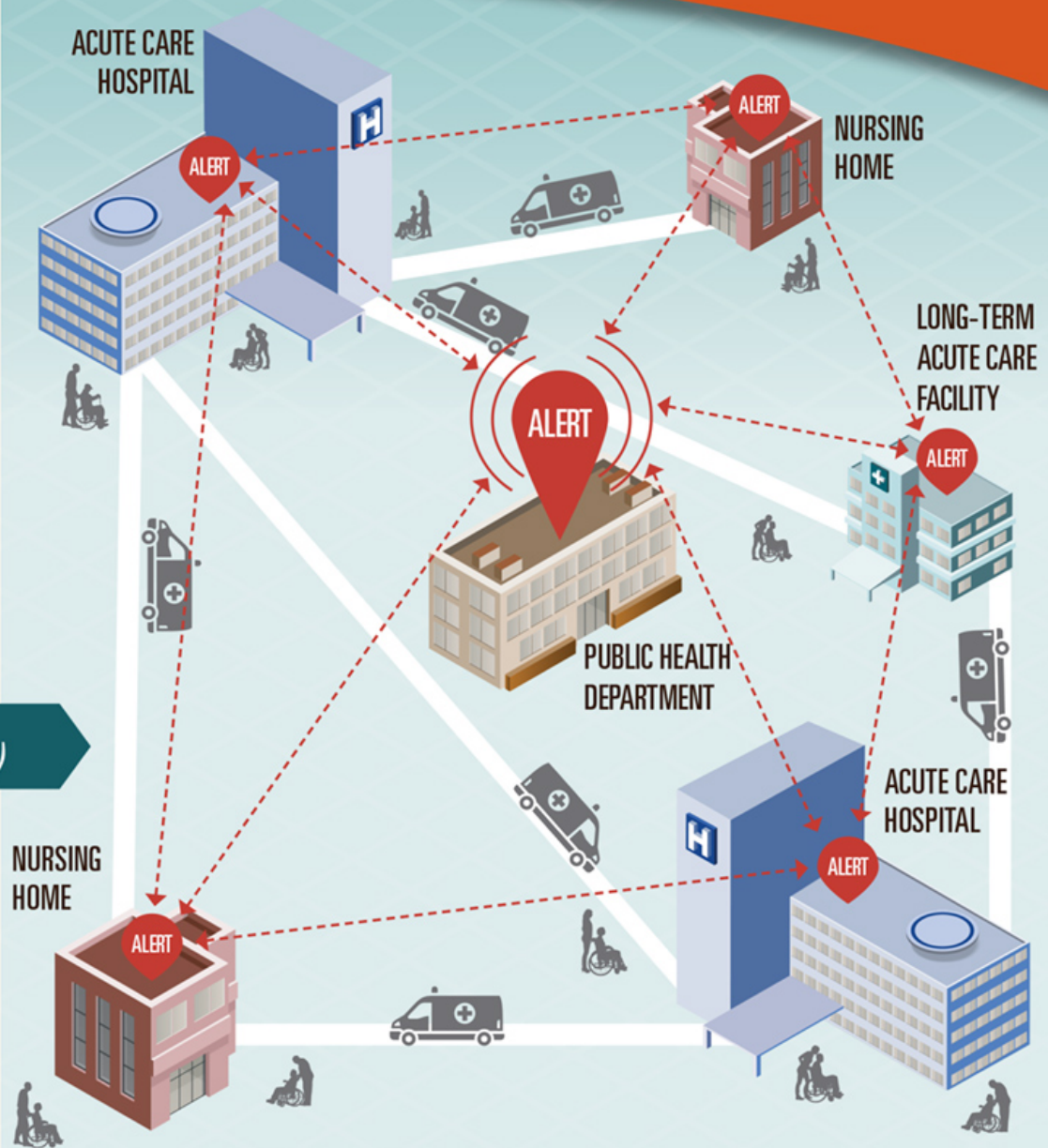
- Patients can be transferred back and forth from facilities for treatment without all the communication and necessary infection control actions in place.

## Independent Efforts *(Still not enough)*

- Some facilities work independently to enhance infection control but are not often alerted to antibiotic-resistant or *C. difficile* germs coming from other facilities or outbreaks in the area.
- Lack of shared information from other facilities means that necessary infection control actions are not always taken and germs are spread to other patients.

## Coordinated Approach *(Needed)*

- Public health departments track and **alert** health care facilities to antibiotic-resistant or *C. difficile* germs coming from other facilities and outbreaks in the area.
- Facilities and public health authorities share information and implement shared infection control actions to stop spread of germs from facility to facility.



# Overarching Goal

- Reduce healthcare-associated infections
- Specifically, *C. difficile*



# WHY *C.difficile*?

Among nursing homes residents:

- One of the most common HAIs
- Frequent antibiotic exposure
- Multiple co-morbidities
- Communal living conditions
- Asymptomatic colonization
- Resists most routine environmental cleaning agents



# Interventions

- Training to increase environmental services competencies
- Equipping with appropriate environmental services equipment
- Equipping with isolation caddies
- Equipping with devices to monitor environmental surfaces



# Training

Two offerings of an 8-hour Environmental Services Training by expert industrial hygienist Shari Solomon with CleanHealth Environmental focusing on:

- Infection prevention
- Protection of the workers, patients, and the environment
- Best practices and industry standards



# Equipment

- Standardized
- Rubbermaid HYGEM commercial cleaning carts
- Microfiber cleaning system
- Industry best practice





# Safety

- PPE organizer
- Protect patients, staff and visitors
- Designed to hang over the door or on any flat surface
- Easily stores away
- Microban material



# Monitoring

- Hygiena- Adenosine Triphosphate (ATP) system
- Indicates surface cleanliness
- Measures Relative Light Units (RLU)
- Quantitative Results



# Measures

- Obtain baseline ATP measures of high touch surfaces
- Obtain new ATP measures of high touch surfaces every two months
- Track *C. difficile* rates



# Progress

- Commitments from 20 of 23 nursing homes
- Commitments from all 1-star facilities
- Design of reporting tool
- Gather baseline data
- EVS training scheduled for August

