Infections: Monitoring for Infection Signs and Symptoms

Key Steps

1. Periodic TB testing of all residents and staff.
   - 'Leave' policy that recognizes employees' possible contagion to residents and area staff.
   - Periodic surveillance cultures per standard protocols to test for antibiotic resistant organisms.

2. Assess resident for signs and symptoms of infection.

3. If signs or symptoms are noted, notify physician and obtain orders.
   - Document orders and develop plan of care.

4. Per care plan use "Screening Checklist" regularly.
   - Assess if patient is progressing according to expectations.
   - Keep physician informed and updated.
   - Update care plan as needed.

Key Elements

1. Regular surveillance activities per subset of infection control policies

2. Daily monitoring for infection signs and symptoms (see Infection Criteria Checklist tool)
   - Appropriate identification of and response to outbreaks

3. Physician assessment
   - Orders provided

4. Reassessment of signs and symptoms and response to treatment per plan of care