

RECOGNIZING AND RESPONDING TO RASHES IN HEALTHCARE SETTINGS

Project Firstline

Micro-Learn Discussion

Angelina County & Cities Health District

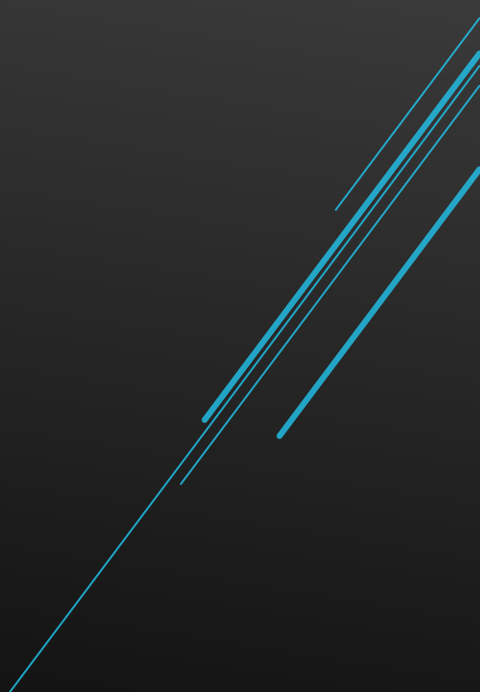
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WHAT IS A RASH?³

- Abnormal skin—may be red, itchy, bumpy, flat, or blistered.
 - Can be caused by:
 - Infections (chickenpox, measles)
 - Allergic reactions (poison ivy, bug bites)
 - Non-infectious conditions
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- A series of several parallel teal lines of varying lengths and orientations, located in the bottom right corner of the slide, creating a modern, abstract graphic element.



Rashes are common in healthcare settings
Some are harmless; others may indicate contagious illnesses.



Early recognition + proper precautions = reduced risk of outbreaks

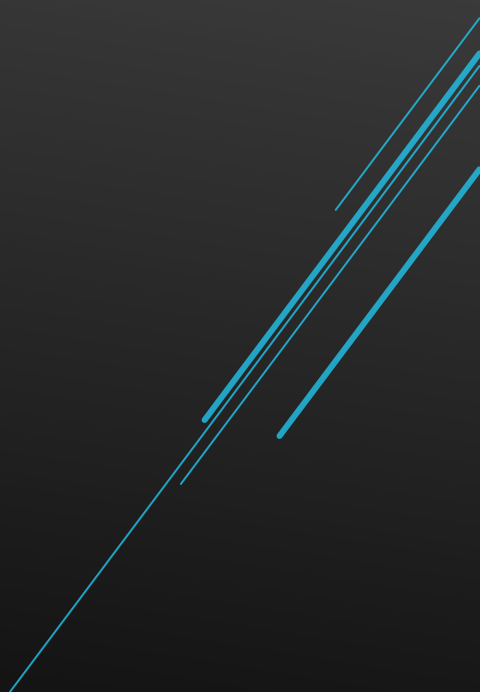
WHY THIS MATTERS

HOW RASHES CAN SPREAD

The background of the slide features a dark, textured surface with several large, spherical virus-like particles. These particles have a rough, bumpy exterior with numerous small, protruding spikes or receptors. The overall color palette is dark purple and black, giving it a scientific or medical feel.

- Some infections that cause rashes—like **chickenpox** or **measles**—are **highly contagious**. These infections can spread **through the air** or **by direct contact**³
- **Hands and skin** often carry germs and can spread them to others¹
- **Scratching a rash** can release germs into the air or onto surfaces³

NOT ALL RASHES ARE INFECTIOUS... BUT TREAT THEM CAREFULLY³


- Even non-infectious rashes can allow germs to enter the body
 - You can't always tell what caused a rash just by looking
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- Several parallel teal lines of varying lengths and orientations are located in the bottom right corner of the slide, creating a modern, abstract graphic element.

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU SEE A RASH³

- Avoid touching the rash if you don't have to
- Always wear gloves if contact is necessary
- Cover the rash if appropriate
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and item
- Be cautious with exposed linens or clothing

A microscopic image showing several red blood cells (erythrocytes) in the background, which are spherical and have a reddish-pink hue. In the foreground, a coronavirus particle is visible, characterized by its spherical shape and a surface covered in numerous small, dark, spike-like projections (spikes) that give it a crown-like appearance.

RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS + RASH = RED FLAG

- Rash + cough, congestion? Consider airborne virus³
 - Separate the patient if possible
 - Notify appropriate health officials
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- Three parallel white lines of varying lengths, slanted diagonally from the bottom right towards the top right, set against the blue background.



PROTECTING YOURSELF AND OTHERS³

- Treat any rash as a possible source of infection
- Broken or irritated skin is a vulnerable entry point for germs
- Take steps to prevent spread—even if the rash looks harmless

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- You can't always tell if a rash is contagious
- Treat all rashes with caution
- Use PPE when needed
- Clean/disinfect affected areas²
- Communicate clearly and act quickly

QUESTIONS + DISCUSSION

- Open the floor for sharing experiences and clarifying concerns.



RESOURCES

1. **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (n.d.).** *Skin infographic.* U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.
<https://www.cdc.gov/project-firstline/media/pdfs/Healthcare-Germs-Body-Skin-508.pdf>
2. **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (n.d.).** *When and how to clean and disinfect a facility.* U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.
<https://www.cdc.gov/hygiene/about/when-and-how-to-clean-and-disinfect-a-facility.html>
3. **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (n.d.).** *Rash Micro-Learn.* U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.
<https://www.cdc.gov/project-firstline/media/pdfs/Micro-Learns-Rash-508.pdf>



ANGELINA COUNTY & CITIES
HEALTH DISTRICT

THANK YOU

- *Thank you for your dedication to patient health!*