

Session 6: Infection Prevention & Control - Risk Assessment; Cultural Sensitivity - Different Forms of Racism

Key Takeaways:

- A facility risk assessment is conducted by identifying and reviewing potential risk factors for infection related to the care, treatment, and services provided and to the environment of care in a specific healthcare setting.
- Organization-specific and community-level data inform a list of risk factors which are generally scored based on the probability of the event, its impact, and the organization’s preparedness for it.
- Risk assessment should inform development of Infection surveillance, prevention and control plan.
- Risk assessment should be conducted annually or more frequently if significant changes occur.
- Systemic racism exists at the level of institutions (harmful policies and practices) and across structures (education, health, transportation, economy, etc.) that are interconnected and reinforcing over time.
- When dealing with risk, race is not a risk, racism is.
- Systemic oppression is systemic and has historical pasts. It is the intentional disadvantaging of groups of people based on their identity while advantaging members of the dominant group (gender, race, class, sexual orientation, language, etc.)
- Systemic oppression and its effects can be undone through recognition of inequitable patterns and intentional action to interrupt inequality and create more democratic processes and systems supported by multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, multi-lingual alliances and partnerships.

Further Reading:

Risk Assessment	APIC Risk Assessment Tool
	University of North Carolina Statewide Program for infection Control and Epidemiology: Template Risk Assessment for LTC
	ASHE Infection Control Risk Assessment v2.0
	Lee TB et al. “Recommended practices for surveillance: Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC), Inc.” Am J infect Control 2007 Sep; 35(7):427-40.
Forms of Racism	Camara Phyllis Jones, MD, MPH, PhD, Levels of Racism: A Theoretical Framework and A Gardener’s Tale
	Camara Phyllis Jones, MD, MPH, PhD, Allegories on Race and Racism (20-minute video)
	National Equity Project, The Lens of Systemic Oppression
	The Aspen Institute, Glossary for Understanding the Dismantling Structural Racism/Promoting Racial Equity Analysis
	Kaiser Family Foundation, COVID-19 Cases and Deaths by Race/Ethnicity: Current Data Changes and Changes Over Time