

What is Clostridioides difficile, also known as C-Diff?

Cdiff is a bacteria that causes an infection of the large intestine. Symptoms can range from diarrhea to life threatening damage to the colon. Illness from Cdiff occurs after use of antibiotic medications. It most commonly affects older adults in the hospital or long-term care facilities. People can become infected after touching contaminated items or surfaces then by touching their mouth, eyes, or nose. Healthcare workers can spread the bacteria to patients or surfaces through hand contact.

What are we doing at TRMC to prevent Cdiff infections?

- Perform hand hygiene with soap and water after caring for a patient with Cdiff (alcohol-based hand sanitizer does not work on Cdiff)
- Clean and disinfect the patient's room with a chlorine-based product
- Limit the use of antibiotics ,using only when medically necessary
- Place patients in a private room with a dedicated bathroom
- Use gown and gloves to protect staff /visitors from infectious material
- Provide education to the patient and families on ways to prevent spread

