

# Course Information Sheet

## Infection Control: Laundry

<b>Course Code</b>	AOC17055-B-R-NZ	<b>Course Series</b>	Infection Prevention & Control
<b>Learning Pathway</b>	Fundamental		
<b>Course Description</b>	<p>Appropriate use of equipment and procedures for handling laundry are an essential part of maintaining safety and infection control. In this course, we highlight the importance of effective laundry procedures and identify safe working systems for reducing risks associated with handling laundry.</p> <p>This course takes the learner through all of the essential steps in the laundry process. This includes the infection control precautions to consider, the types of laundry found in the care home and key principles for maintaining infection control whilst handling, collecting and washing laundry.</p>		
<b>Subjects covered include</b>	<p>Infection Control Precautions – Hand Hygiene – Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – Standard Precautions – Transmission Based Precautions – Used Laundry – Heavily Soiled Laundry – Infectious Laundry – Collection of Linen – Transportation – Washing – Drying and Ironing – Types of Disinfection – Colour Coding – Cleaning of Equipment – Health and Safety</p>		
<b>Target Audience</b>	Care Staff, Laundry Staff		
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<p>After viewing this course, participants should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognise the importance of effective laundry procedures in maintaining the safety of residents and staff</li> <li>• Describe the precautions, procedures and systems that should be employed when handling laundry in order to reduce risks.</li> </ul>		

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## Did You Know?

- Staff must adhere to the national legislation and standards for infection control, as well as their organisation’s policies and procedures for the correct handling of laundry.
- Adopting best practice procedures when performing any laundry task will minimise the risk of outbreaks.

## Subject Matter Expert

**Paul Creek** has provided Consulting Services to the Health and Aged Care Industries for the past 16 years across Australia, Asia and New Zealand with his Sydney based company, [Creek Solutions](#).

Paul consults in Hospitality Services Management predominantly in the areas of kitchen production and service, food safety/HACCP, laundry, cleaning and maintenance. He consults on the ideal design of new builds in aged and health care, hotel back of house including laundry, dirty utility rooms (DUR) and kitchens, and has been called on from organisations in Europe, UK, USA and Singapore for input into process management for support services.

Managing infection control processes is another expertise of Paul’s and he is often sought after for advice on its control. An advocate for microfibre cleaning processes, Paul has led the industry in Australia with contemporary practices and was the first to introduce ozone into his organisation, a green initiative for energy and water savings to Australia.

## Key Definitions

Heat or Thermal Disinfection	Heat or Thermal Disinfection relies on a time-temperature ratio, where the temperature of the load is maintained at 65°C for not less than ten minutes, or 71°C for not less than three minutes.
Chemical Disinfection	Chemical Disinfection is required for items that can become damaged by high heat. Specific pre-mixed chemicals are used to remove contamination without harming the item.
Ozone Disinfection	Ozone Disinfection uses oxygen and electricity to create an ozone gas. This is then dissolved in the water to achieve disinfection.
Used Laundry	Laundry which is not visibly soiled, or is only lightly soiled, with the blood or bodily fluids of a resident with no known infection.
Heavily Soiled Laundry	Laundry that is visibly soiled with large quantities of the blood or bodily fluids of a resident with no known infection.

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Infectious Laundry	Any laundry that has been used by a resident with an infection, regardless of whether it is soiled with the blood or bodily fluids of the resident.
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### Resources to Support Your Learning

[Australia/New Zealand Standard - Laundry Practice](#)

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### Active Learning Hours

This course and the accompanying assessment may require up to three hours of active learning. It is the learner's responsibility to calculate how many hours of active learning have taken place. The course viewed must be relevant to the care worker or nurse's context of practice for it to be considered continuing professional development. Certificates are available from your coordinator.

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