**Infection Control: Laundry 17055**

**Definitions**

**Used laundry** is 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** is laundry that is visibly soiled with large quantities of the blood or bodily fluids of a resident with no known infection.

**Infectious laundry** is 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.

**Multiple Choice**

Used laundry may be separated into:  
resident clothing  
delicate items  
bed linen and towelling  
all of the other answers

The washing process consists of five key factors:  
Time, Temperature, Chemicals, Dip and Load Weight  
Time, Temperature, Colour, Distribution and Water Level  
Texture, Temperature, Contamination, Dip and Load Weight  
Time, Texture, Chemicals, Distribution and Water Level

Transmission-based precautions, such as donning a mask, goggle or gown, may be required when there is a:  
high risk of infection  
confirmed infectious outbreak  
risk of direct contact with blood or bodily fluids  
all of the other answers

Heat or thermal disinfection relies on a time-temperature ratio, such as:  
65ºC for not less than ten minutes   
55ºC for not less than ten minutes   
65ºC for not less than three minutes   
55ºC for not less than three minutes

What does ozone disinfection use to effectively achieve disinfection?  
heat  
chemicals  
oxygen and electricity  
all of the other answers  
  
**True/False**

When collecting bed linen, the towels should be wrapped inside the larger sheets. FALSE

Used, heavily soiled and infectious laundry should be collected together in one laundry bag. FALSE

Trolleys used to store clean linen should never carry dirty laundry or be stored in dirty areas. TRUE

Heavily soiled or infectious laundry should be placed into a leak proof water-soluble bag to prevent leakage and minimise the spread of infection. TRUE

Any water-soluble bags and their contents can go directly into the washing machine, as the soluble bag will dissolve during the wash. TRUE

**Fill the Gap**

Bed linen \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ shaken before it is placed in the skip.   
should be  
should not be  
can be

To minimise the spread of infection, laundry bags should be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  
filled to capacity  
filled half-way  
two thirds full

Dirty laundry items should remain in the dirty area, at a \_\_\_\_\_ temperature, and washed as soon as possible.  
cool  
warm  
hot

Laundry items that have been placed in a water-soluble bag \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ reopened, before being placed in the washing machine.  
should be  
should not be  
can be

For optimum results, the washing machine should be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  
filled to capacity  
filled half-way  
two thirds full