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Infection Prevention and Control Reflection #1.

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Having a basic understanding of types of infections and bacteria is crucial when working in a medical environment. For medical imaging it's very important because we are a department that receives all kinds of patients with all types of diseases. Knowing the protocols for each type of infection is key to stopping the spread of infections between patients, as well as keeping staff safe. PPE is key when working with infected patients. Having the knowledge of what PPE to wear per type of disease / infection is how we can interrupt the chain of infection. Even when a patient is not known to have any infectious diseases we continue to have a cleaning standard that all technologists agree to. Making sure that all staff are aware and up to date on all the protocols will help reduce the chance of staff illness and patient illness.

Staff and patients are continuously touching the equipment, which is why it is important to know the best steps for disinfecting and which cleaning solutions that need to be used. From standard cleaning protocol to airborne diseases it is crucial to know how the handling and the cleaning of equipment. It's important to know when the use of cleaning wipes, bleach wipes or a total room shut down is going to be necessary. Not only for infection control but the flow of the department, if you know that a patient is airborne and that you will need to shut a room down, planning ahead is very important. Knowing protocols is just as important when you are out of the

department doing portable x-rays. Having the correct PPE as well as wipes and bleach disinfectants is just as important in the department as out.