

EVS AND THE BATTLE AGAINST INFECTION



1

EVS AND THE BATTLE AGAINST INFECTION IS AN INTERACTIVE STORY WHERE YOU GET TO DECIDE HOW THE STORY UNFOLDS.

EACH PANEL IN THIS GRAPHIC NOVEL IS NUMBERED. READ THE PANELS IN ORDER.

1

IN SOME PANELS YOU WILL HAVE TO MAKE A CHOICE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS NEXT. TO MAKE A CHOICE, SKIP TO THE PANEL NUMBER NEXT TO YOUR CHOICE. NOTE THAT SOME PANELS MAY ONLY HAVE ONE CHOICE.

LEARN HOW TO NAVIGATE...

2

LEARN MORE ABOUT EVS WORKERS...

7

7

WHEN YOU'VE REACHED YOUR CHOSEN PANEL, CONTINUE READING IN ORDER.

1



HI! WELCOME TO MEMORIAL HOSPITAL. I'M SOFIA, A SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (OR EVS) WORKER, AND THIS IS WHERE I WORK.

WOULD YOU LIKE A TOUR OF THE HOSPITAL, OR WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT EVS WORKERS DO?

TOUR THE HOSPITAL...

2

LEARN MORE ABOUT EVS WORKERS...

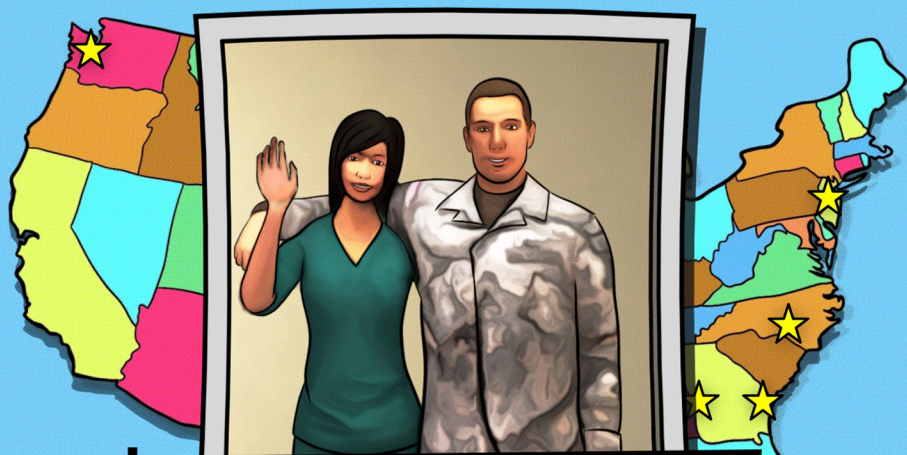
7

2



GREAT, I'D BE HAPPY TO SHOW YOU AROUND.

3



I'VE WORKED AT MANY DIFFERENT HOSPITALS - AS MY HUSBAND IS IN THE ARMY - BUT I'VE BEEN HERE THE LONGEST.

4

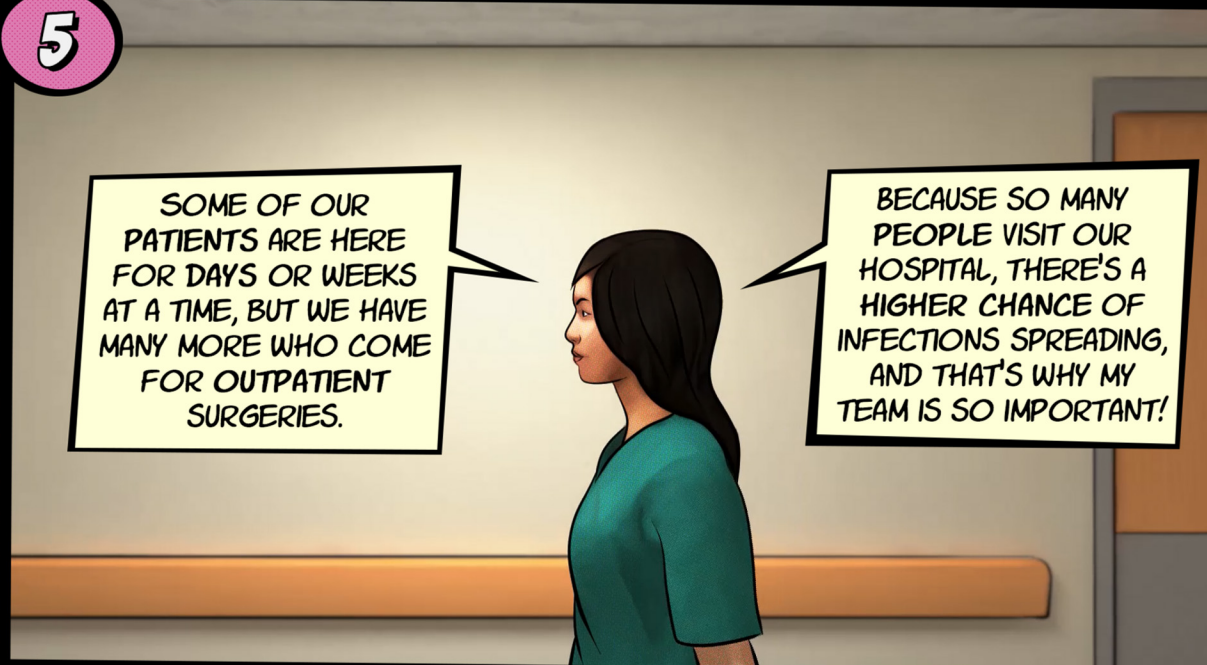
AS YOU CAN SEE, WE'RE A BUSY HOSPITAL. WE ALSO HAVE AN ED, MATERNITY WARD, OPERATING ROOMS, AND LOTS OF PATIENT ROOMS THAT NEED TO BE CLEANED EVERY DAY.



5

SOME OF OUR PATIENTS ARE HERE FOR DAYS OR WEEKS AT A TIME, BUT WE HAVE MANY MORE WHO COME FOR OUTPATIENT SURGERIES.

BECAUSE SO MANY PEOPLE VISIT OUR HOSPITAL, THERE'S A HIGHER CHANCE OF INFECTIONS SPREADING, AND THAT'S WHY MY TEAM IS SO IMPORTANT!



6

CLEAN UTILITY

I HAVE TO STOP BY THIS ROOM OFTEN TO MAKE SURE I HAVE ALL THE CORRECT CLEANING AND DISINFECTING SUPPLIES.



SKIP TO...

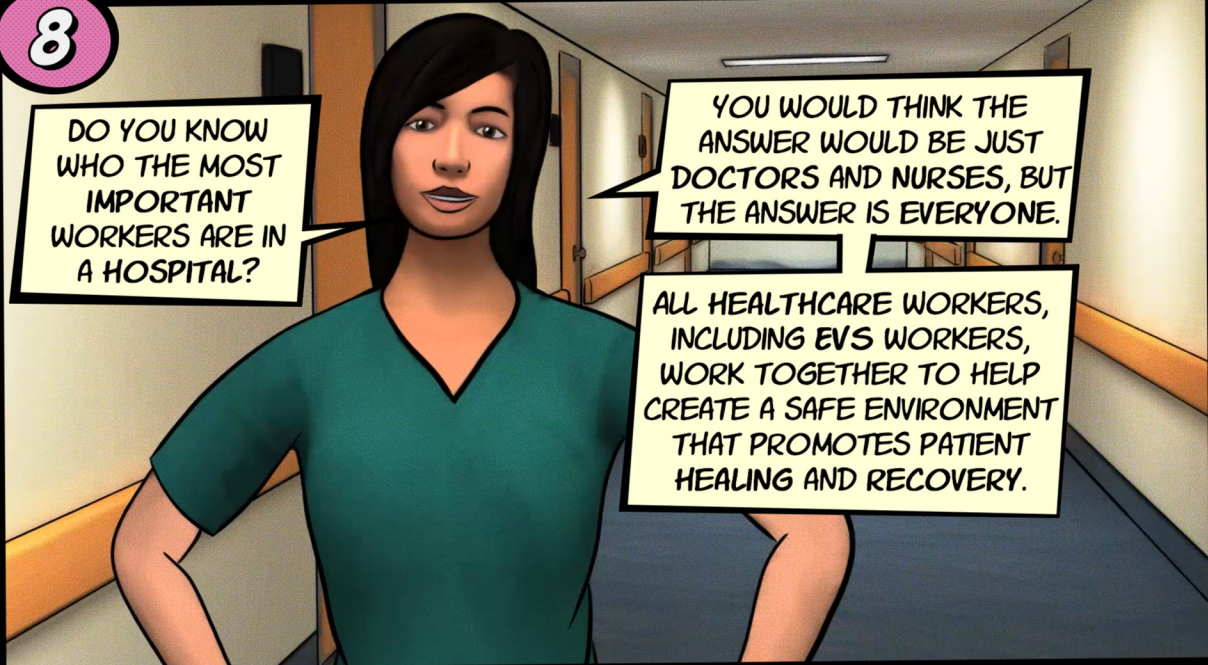
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7



GREAT, I'VE BEEN AN EVS WORKER FOR MANY YEARS AND WOULD LOVE TO TELL YOU ABOUT IT.

8

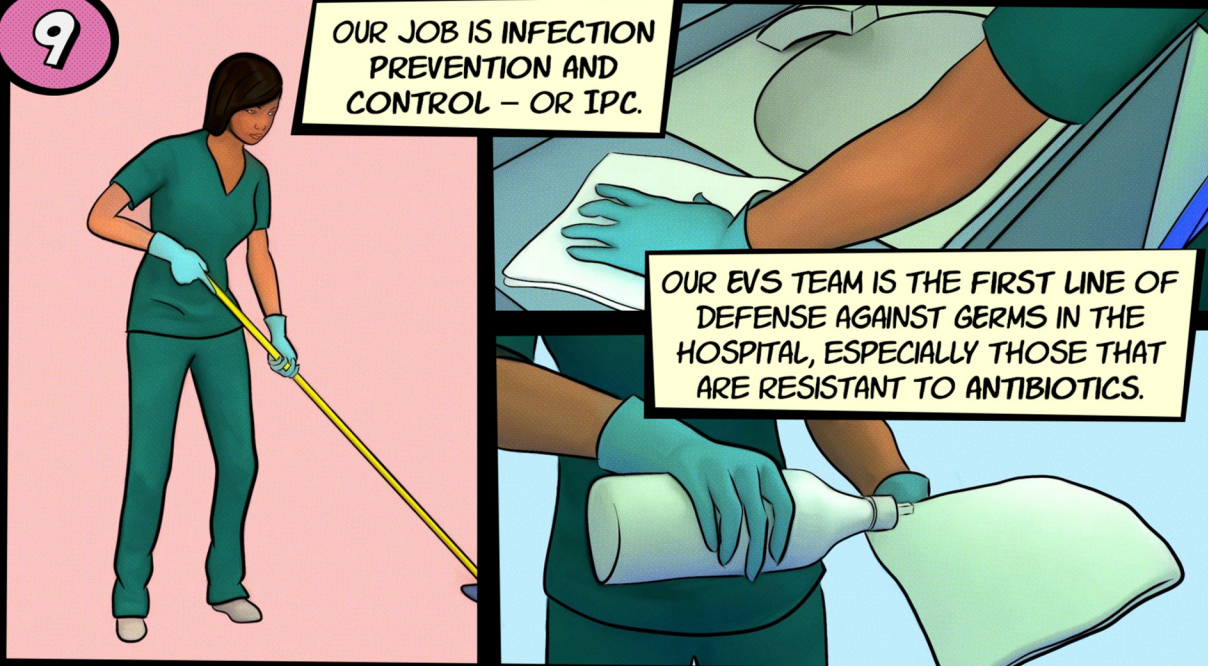


DO YOU KNOW WHO THE MOST IMPORTANT WORKERS ARE IN A HOSPITAL?

YOU WOULD THINK THE ANSWER WOULD BE JUST DOCTORS AND NURSES, BUT THE ANSWER IS EVERYONE.

ALL HEALTHCARE WORKERS, INCLUDING EVS WORKERS, WORK TOGETHER TO HELP CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT THAT PROMOTES PATIENT HEALING AND RECOVERY.

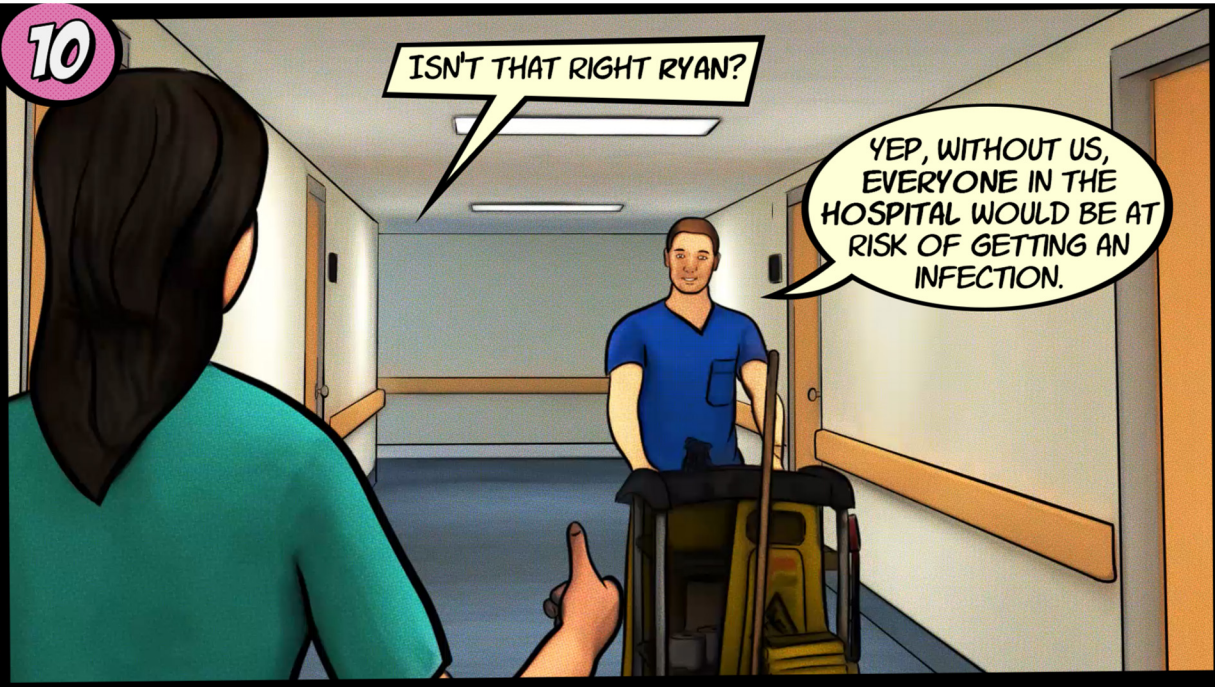
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OUR JOB IS INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL - OR IPC.

OUR EVS TEAM IS THE FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE AGAINST GERMS IN THE HOSPITAL, ESPECIALLY THOSE THAT ARE RESISTANT TO ANTIBIOTICS.

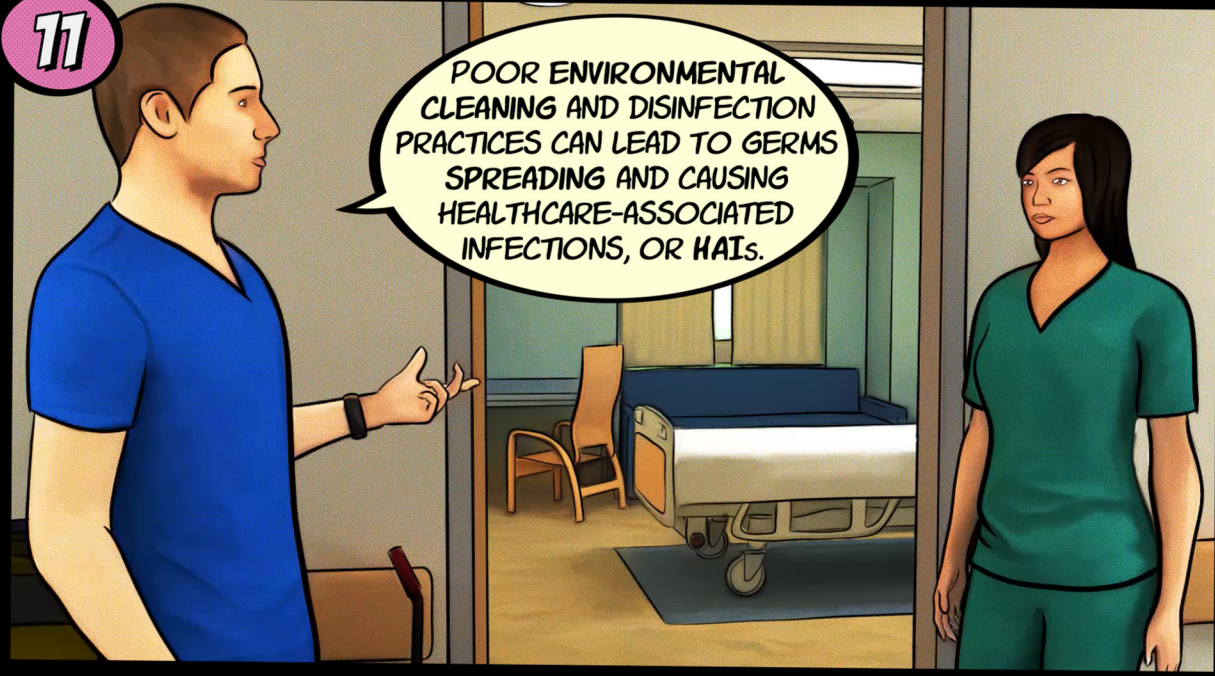
10



ISN'T THAT RIGHT RYAN?

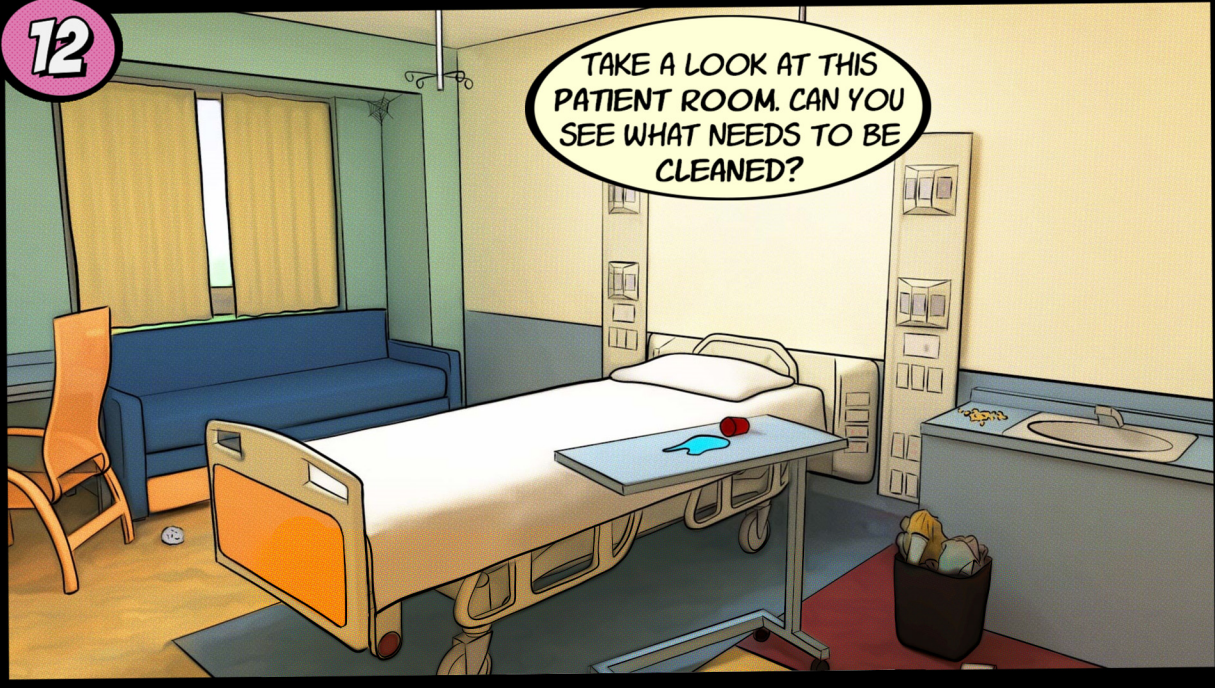
YEP, WITHOUT US, EVERYONE IN THE HOSPITAL WOULD BE AT RISK OF GETTING AN INFECTION.

11



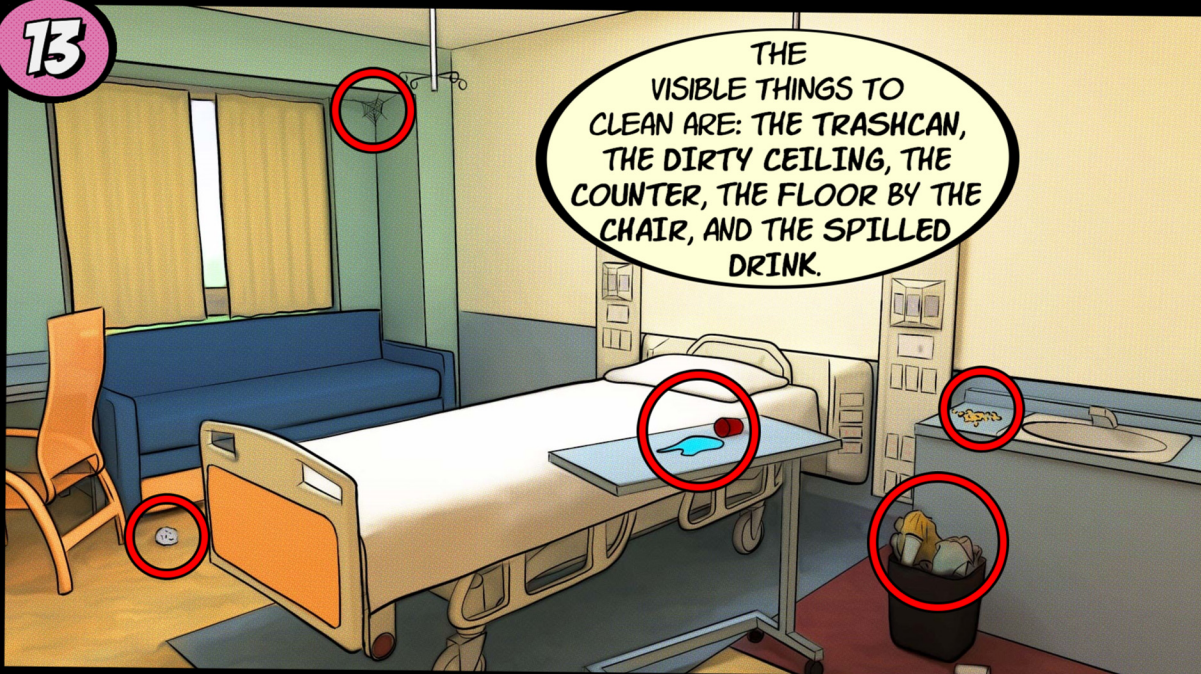
POOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANING AND DISINFECTION PRACTICES CAN LEAD TO GERMS SPREADING AND CAUSING HEALTHCARE-ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS, OR HAIs.

12



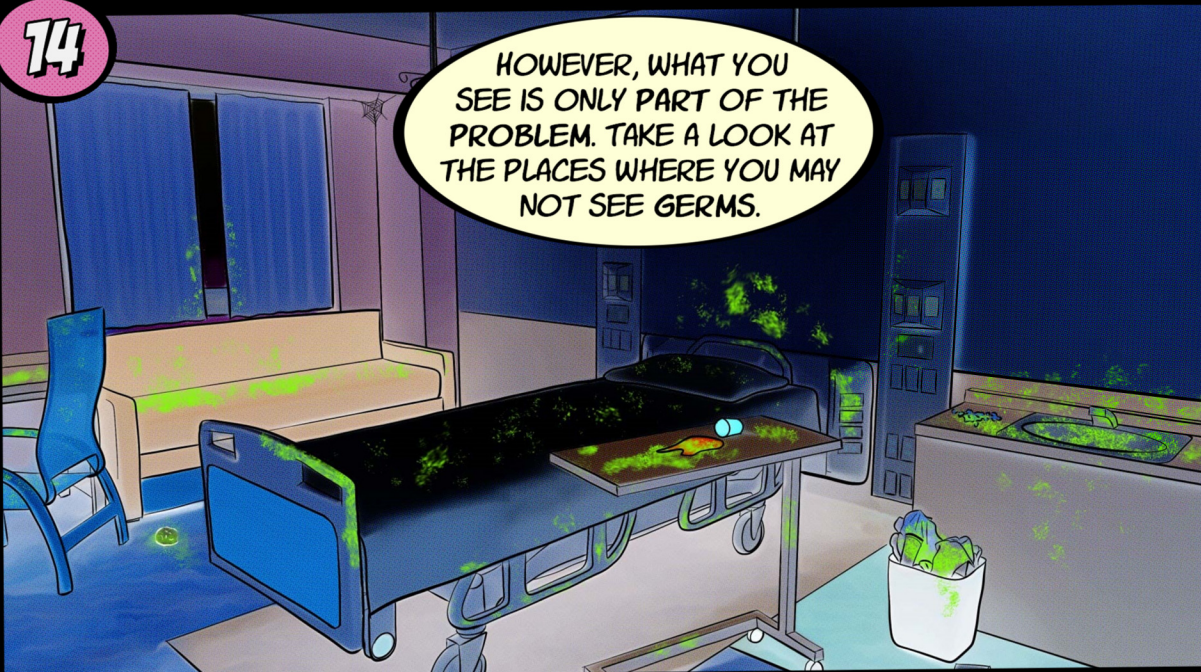
TAKE A LOOK AT THIS PATIENT ROOM. CAN YOU SEE WHAT NEEDS TO BE CLEANED?

13



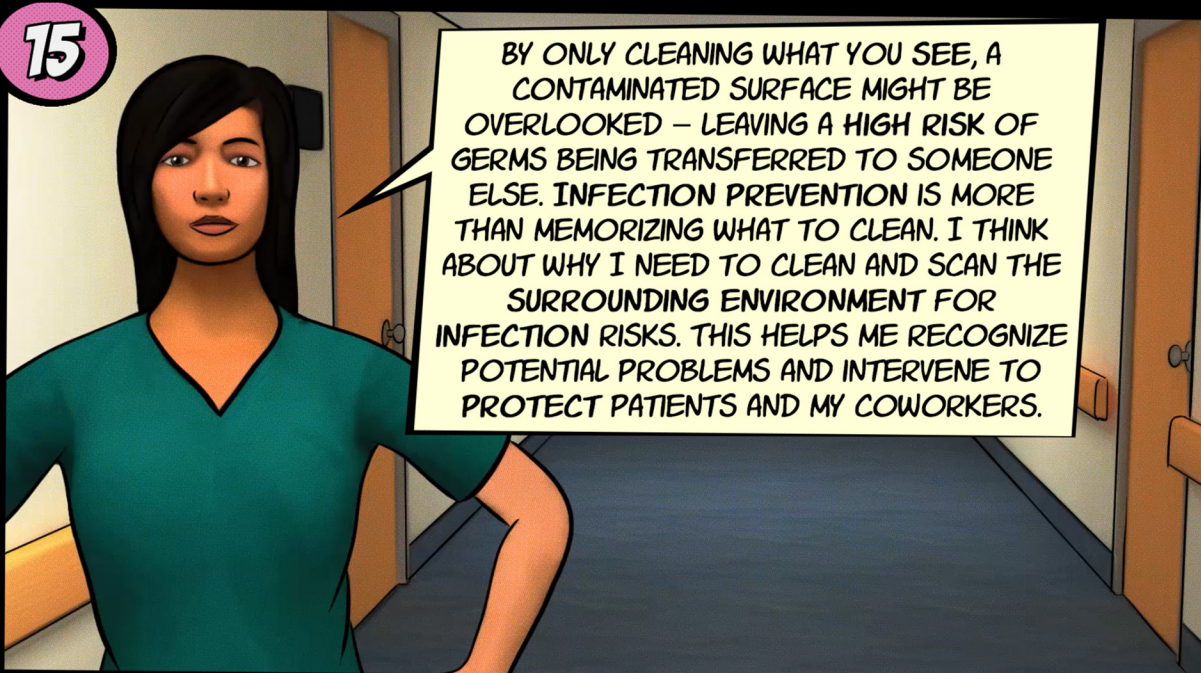
THE
VISIBLE THINGS TO
CLEAN ARE: THE TRASHCAN,
THE DIRTY CEILING, THE
COUNTER, THE FLOOR BY THE
CHAIR, AND THE SPILLED
DRINK.

14



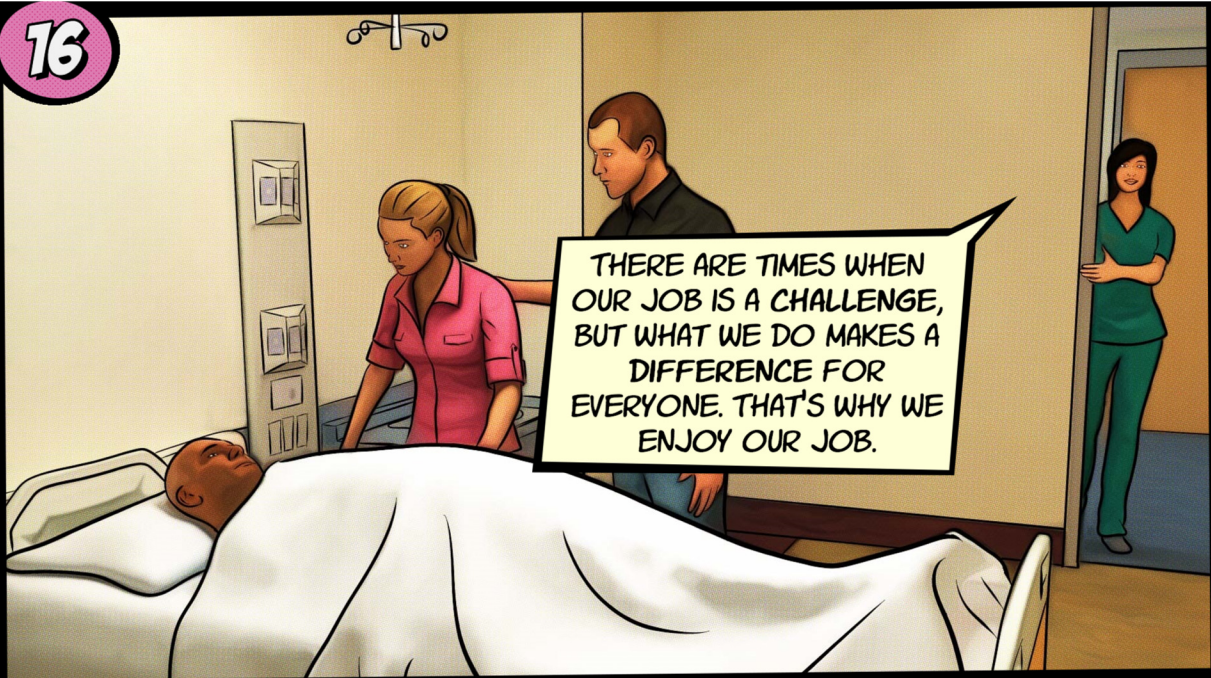
HOWEVER, WHAT YOU
SEE IS ONLY PART OF THE
PROBLEM. TAKE A LOOK AT
THE PLACES WHERE YOU MAY
NOT SEE GERMS.

15



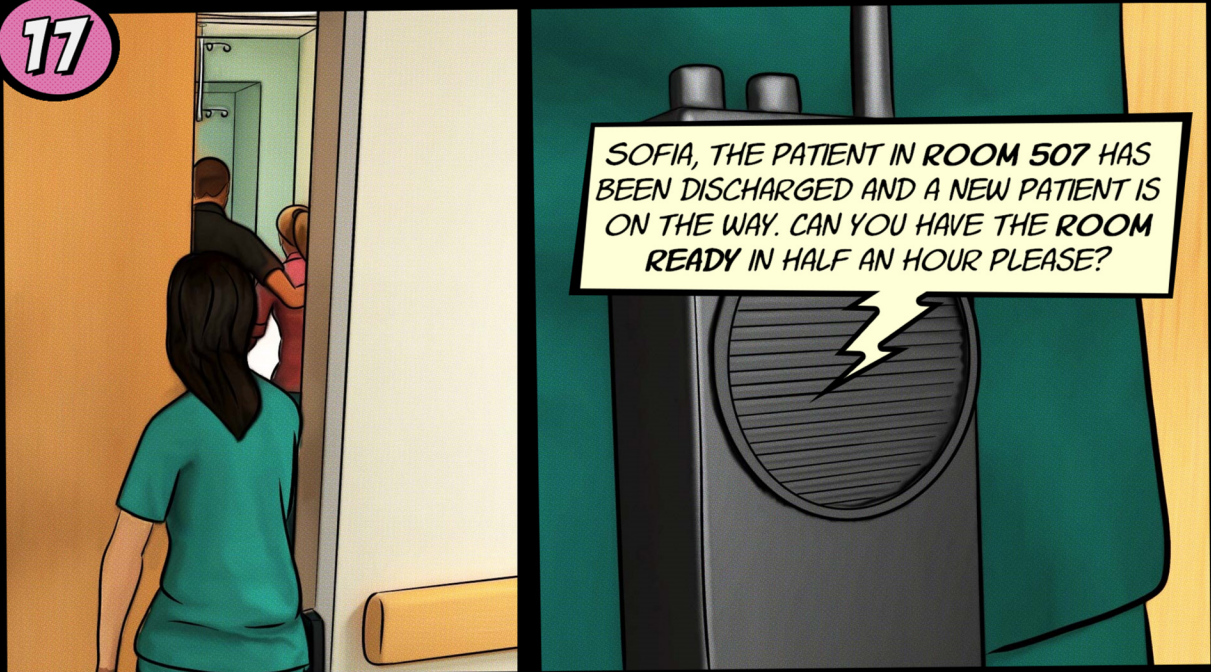
BY ONLY CLEANING WHAT YOU SEE, A
CONTAMINATED SURFACE MIGHT BE
OVERLOOKED – LEAVING A HIGH RISK OF
GERMS BEING TRANSFERRED TO SOMEONE
ELSE. INFECTION PREVENTION IS MORE
THAN MEMORIZING WHAT TO CLEAN. I THINK
ABOUT WHY I NEED TO CLEAN AND SCAN THE
SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT FOR
INFECTION RISKS. THIS HELPS ME RECOGNIZE
POTENTIAL PROBLEMS AND INTERVENE TO
PROTECT PATIENTS AND MY COWORKERS.

16



THERE ARE TIMES WHEN OUR JOB IS A CHALLENGE, BUT WHAT WE DO MAKES A DIFFERENCE FOR EVERYONE. THAT'S WHY WE ENJOY OUR JOB.

17



SOFIA, THE PATIENT IN ROOM 507 HAS BEEN DISCHARGED AND A NEW PATIENT IS ON THE WAY. CAN YOU HAVE THE ROOM READY IN HALF AN HOUR PLEASE?

18



I'VE GOT TO RUN, BUT I'LL CATCH UP WITH YOU LATER. WHY DON'T YOU FOLLOW RYAN FOR A LITTLE WHILE? HE KNOWS A LOT ABOUT THE RIGHT SUPPLIES TO USE WHEN CLEANING POTENTIAL RISKS.

19

THIS IS BILL'S ROOM. HE TOLD ME HE HAS THE FLU. WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT THE GERMS DON'T SPREAD.

HMM... IS SOMETHING MISSING HERE?

YES, THERE IS NO DROPLET PRECAUTIONS SIGN...

20

NO, EVERYTHING LOOKS GOOD...

22

20

STOP DROPLET PRECAUTIONS STOP

(In addition to Standard Precautions)

Families and Visitors follow instructions from information sheet.
(If you have questions, go to Nurse Station)

Everyone Must:



Clean hands when entering and leaving room



Wear mask

Doctors and Staff Must:



If contact with secretions likely, use gown, glove, and eye cover



YES, THAT'S RIGHT, THERE SHOULD BE A DROPLET PRECAUTIONS SIGN OUTSIDE BILL'S DOOR TO WARN ABOUT GERMS THAT ARE SPREAD BY TINY RESPIRATORY DROPLETS WHEN HE COUGHS, SNEEZES, OR TALKS. A CLINICAL TEAM MEMBER USUALLY PUTS THESE SIGNS UP. LET ME ASK ONE OF THEM ABOUT IT.

21

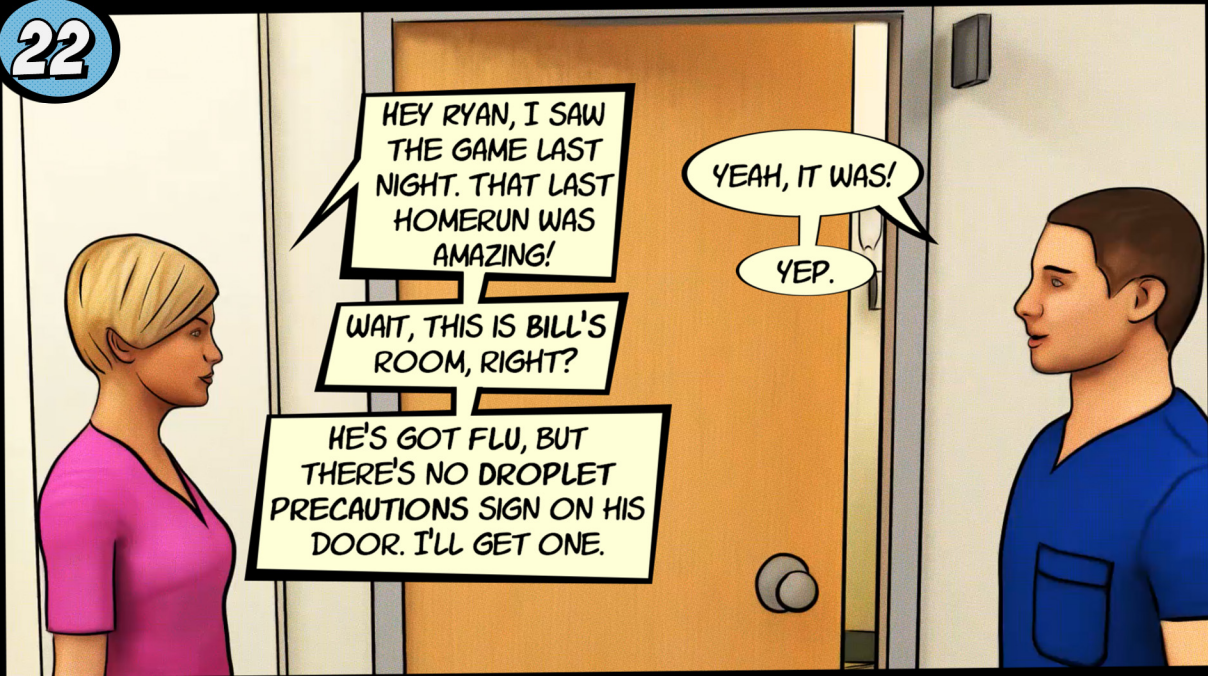
OH! GOOD CATCH RYAN. YEAH, I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT.

ANGELA, BILL TOLD ME THAT HE HAS THE FLU. SHOULDN'T THERE BE A DROPLET PRECAUTIONS SIGN ON HIS DOOR?

SKIP TO...

23

22



HEY RYAN, I SAW THE GAME LAST NIGHT. THAT LAST HOMERUN WAS AMAZING!

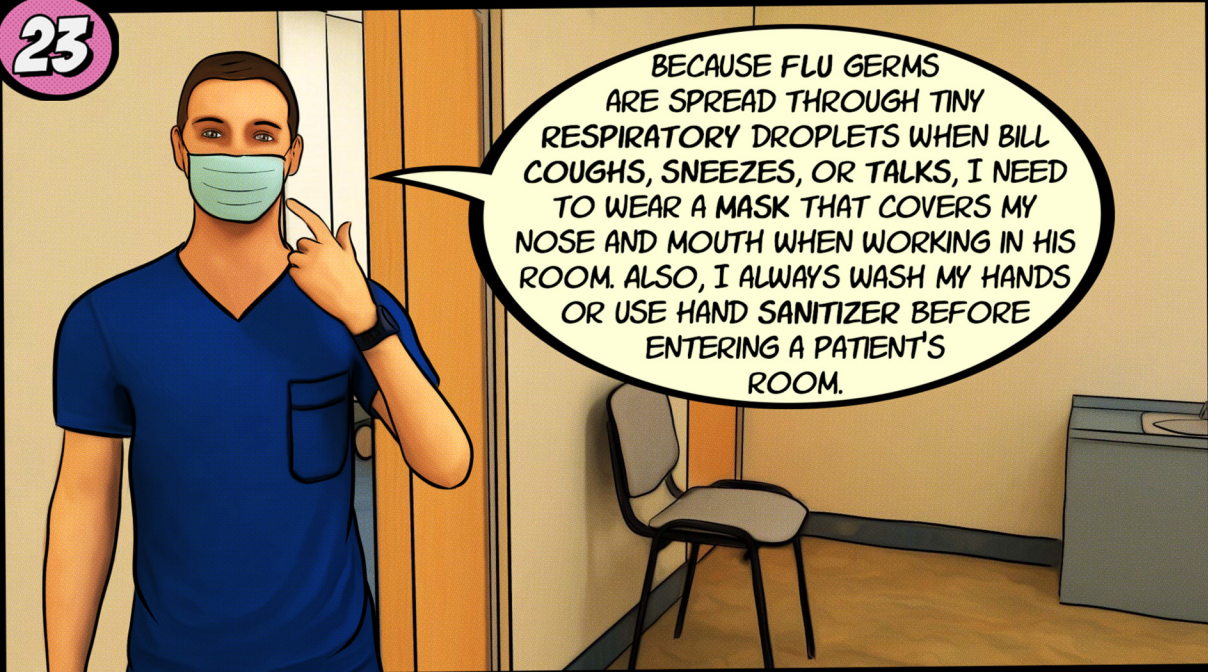
YEAH, IT WAS!

WAIT, THIS IS BILL'S ROOM, RIGHT?

YEP.

HE'S GOT FLU, BUT THERE'S NO DROPLET PRECAUTIONS SIGN ON HIS DOOR. I'LL GET ONE.

23



BECAUSE FLU GERMS ARE SPREAD THROUGH TINY RESPIRATORY DROPLETS WHEN BILL COUGHS, SNEEZES, OR TALKS, I NEED TO WEAR A MASK THAT COVERS MY NOSE AND MOUTH WHEN WORKING IN HIS ROOM. ALSO, I ALWAYS WASH MY HANDS OR USE HAND SANITIZER BEFORE ENTERING A PATIENT'S ROOM.

24



PRETTY GOOD! MY DAUGHTER'S HERE TO SEE ME.

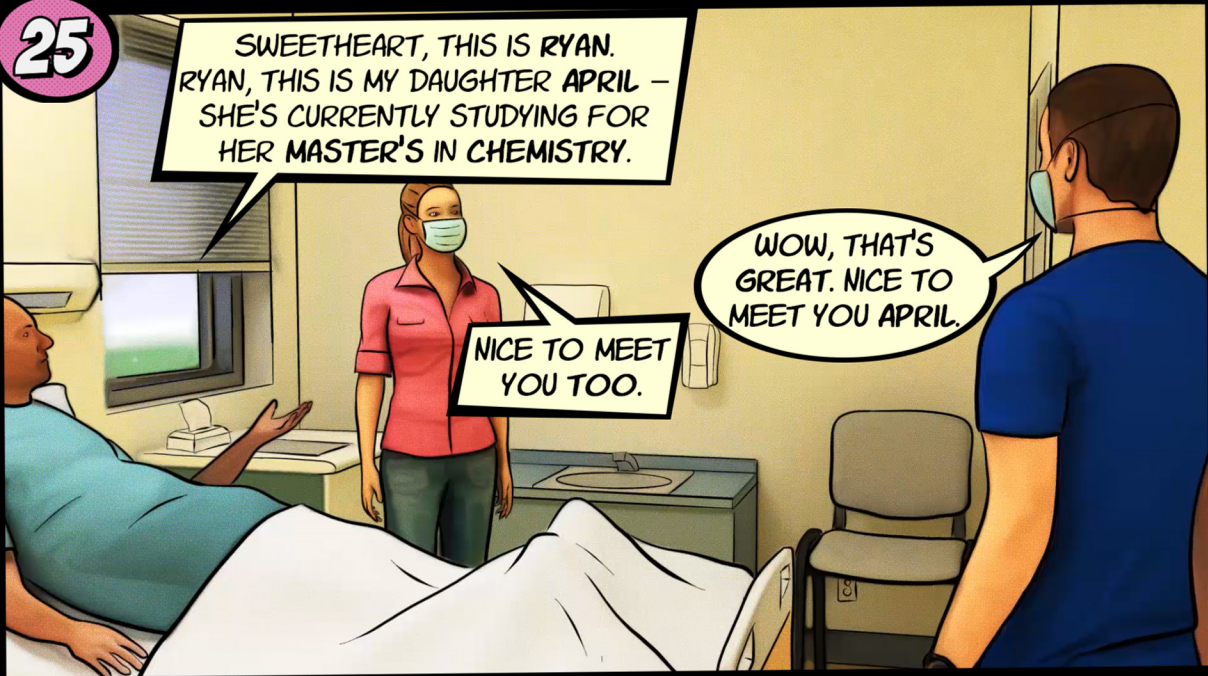
HI BILL, HOW ARE THINGS GOING?

25

SWEETHEART, THIS IS RYAN. RYAN, THIS IS MY DAUGHTER APRIL – SHE'S CURRENTLY STUDYING FOR HER MASTER'S IN CHEMISTRY.

NICE TO MEET YOU TOO.

WOW, THAT'S GREAT. NICE TO MEET YOU APRIL.



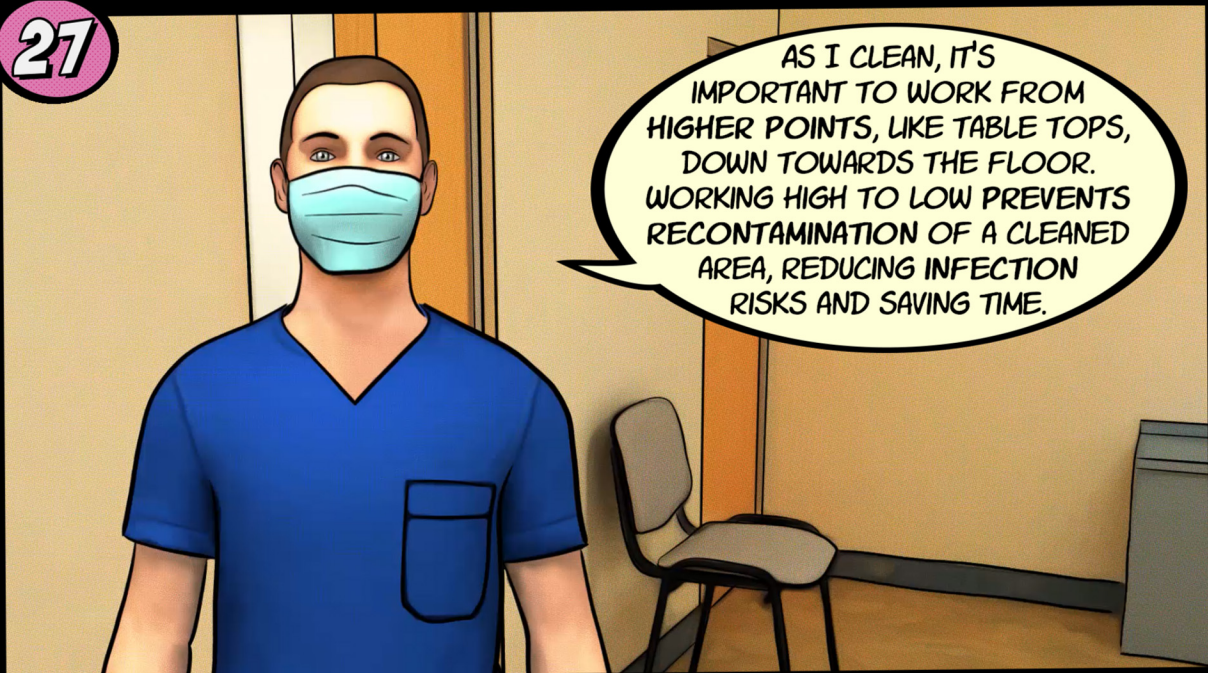
26

WELL, DON'T LET ME INTERRUPT. I'M JUST GOING TO GET THINGS CLEANED UP WHILE YOU TWO VISIT.




27

AS I CLEAN, IT'S IMPORTANT TO WORK FROM HIGHER POINTS, LIKE TABLE TOPS, DOWN TOWARDS THE FLOOR. WORKING HIGH TO LOW PREVENTS RECONTAMINATION OF A CLEANED AREA, REDUCING INFECTION RISKS AND SAVING TIME.



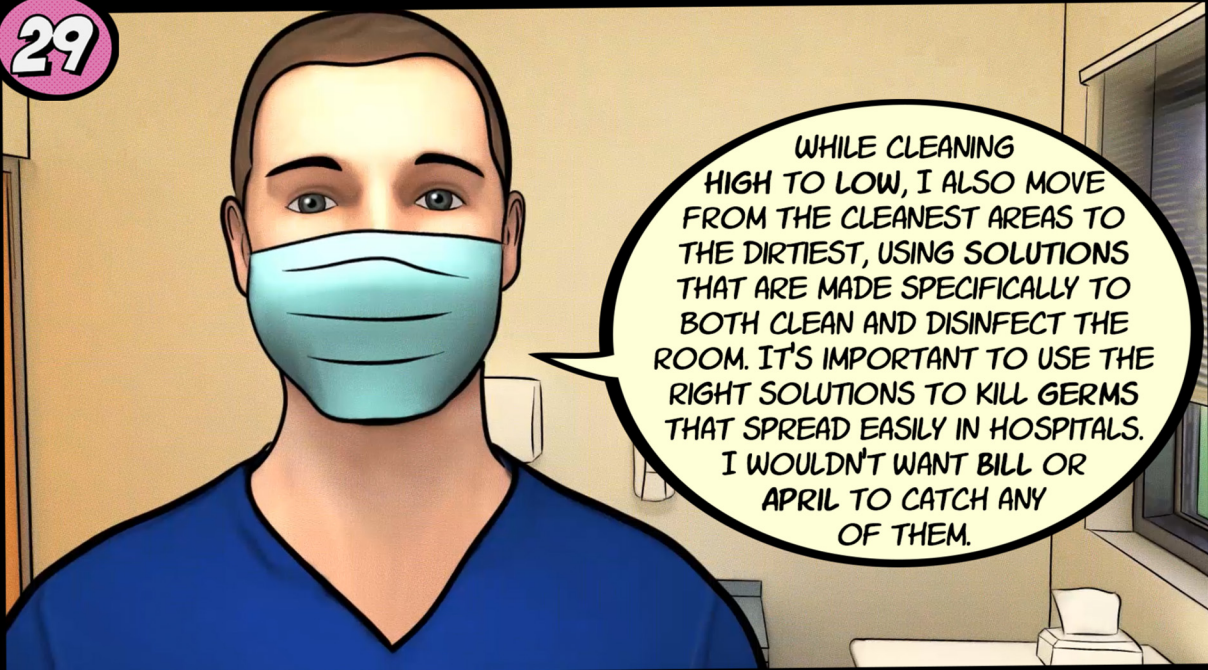
28



BILL, ARE YOU ALL DONE WITH YOUR BREAKFAST TRAY? I NEED TO CLEAN YOUR TABLE.


YES, I'M ALL FINISHED.

29



WHILE CLEANING HIGH TO LOW, I ALSO MOVE FROM THE CLEANEST AREAS TO THE DIRTIEST, USING SOLUTIONS THAT ARE MADE SPECIFICALLY TO BOTH CLEAN AND DISINFECT THE ROOM. IT'S IMPORTANT TO USE THE RIGHT SOLUTIONS TO KILL GERMS THAT SPREAD EASILY IN HOSPITALS. I WOULDN'T WANT BILL OR APRIL TO CATCH ANY OF THEM.

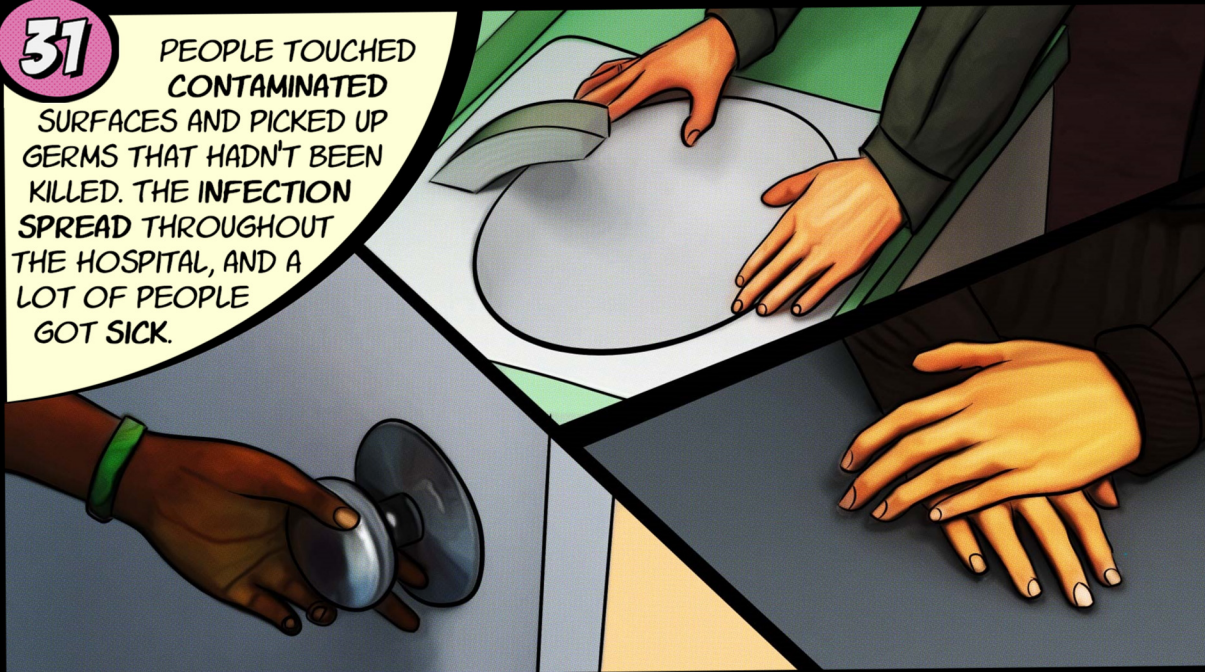
30



ONCE, I HEARD ABOUT AN EVS WORKER WHO DIDN'T USE THE RIGHT CLEANING SOLUTION FOR THEIR PATIENTS' ROOMS.

31

PEOPLE TOUCHED CONTAMINATED SURFACES AND PICKED UP GERMS THAT HADN'T BEEN KILLED. THE INFECTION SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE HOSPITAL, AND A LOT OF PEOPLE GOT SICK.



32

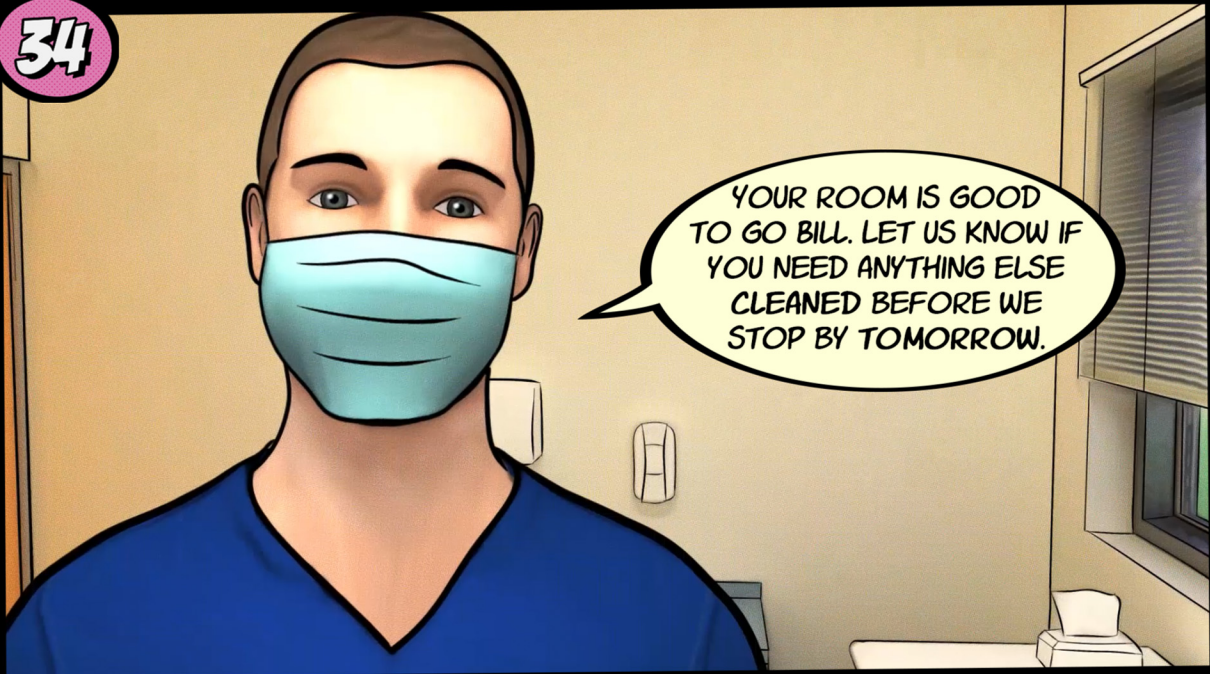
GREAT, NOW THAT I'VE FINISHED CLEANING YOUR BEDSIDE TABLE, LET ME FINISH CLEANING THE REST OF YOUR ROOM.



33

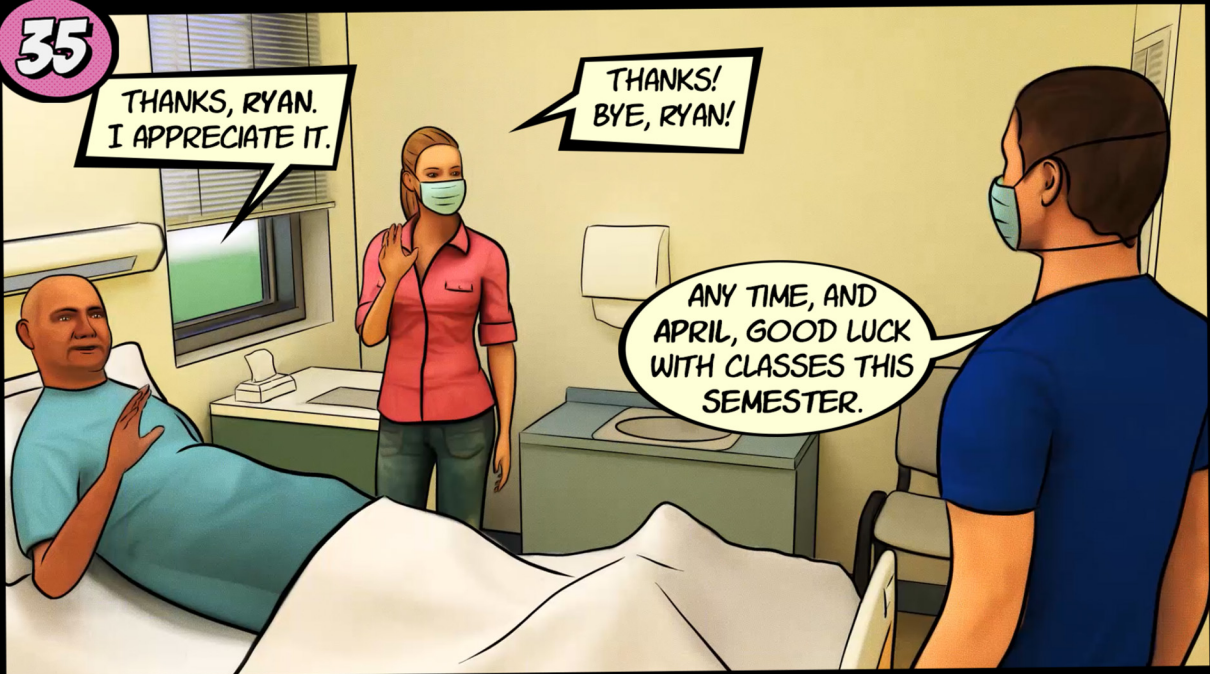


34



YOUR ROOM IS GOOD TO GO BILL. LET US KNOW IF YOU NEED ANYTHING ELSE CLEANED BEFORE WE STOP BY TOMORROW.

35

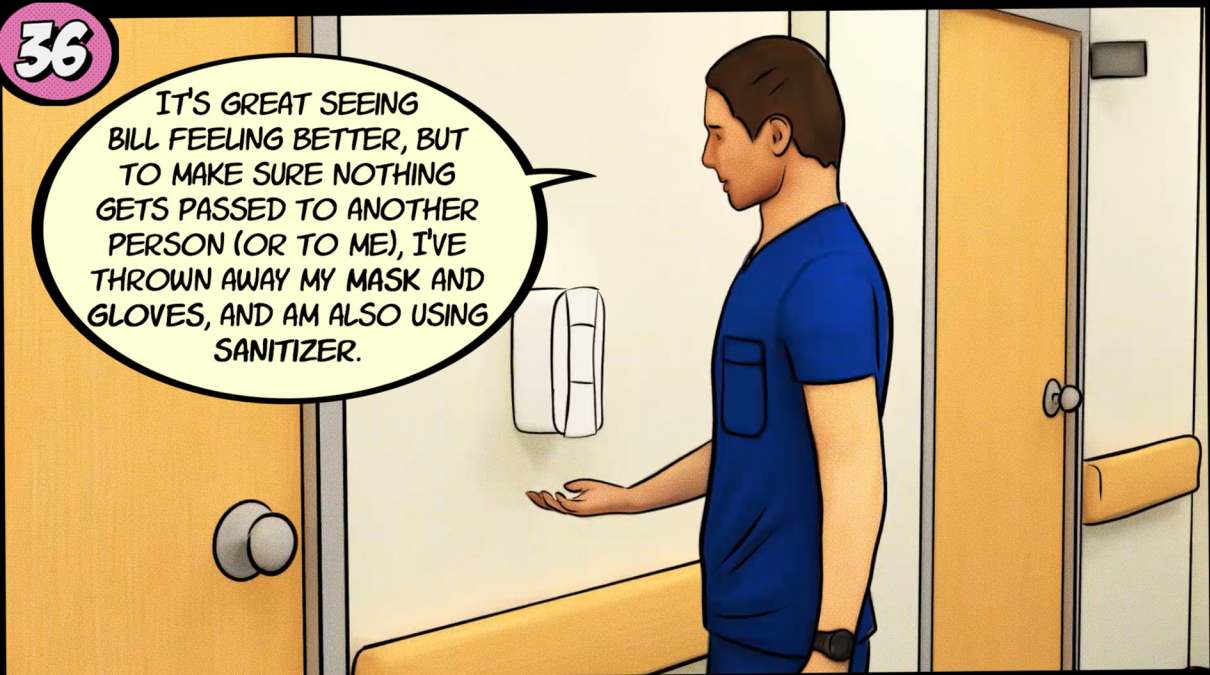


THANKS, RYAN. I APPRECIATE IT.

THANKS!
BYE, RYAN!

ANY TIME, AND APRIL, GOOD LUCK WITH CLASSES THIS SEMESTER.

36



IT'S GREAT SEEING BILL FEELING BETTER, BUT TO MAKE SURE NOTHING GETS PASSED TO ANOTHER PERSON (OR TO ME), I'VE THROWN AWAY MY MASK AND GLOVES, AND AM ALSO USING SANITIZER.

37



THERE ARE LOTS OF THINGS WE CAN DO TO PREVENT AND CONTROL INFECTIONS, BE EFFICIENT WITH OUR TIME, AND KEEP OUR PATIENTS AND EVERYONE ELSE SAFE.

I'M HEADING TO MY BREAK. WHY DON'T YOU JOIN SOFIA FOR A BIT? I THINK SHE'S IN ROOM 507.

38



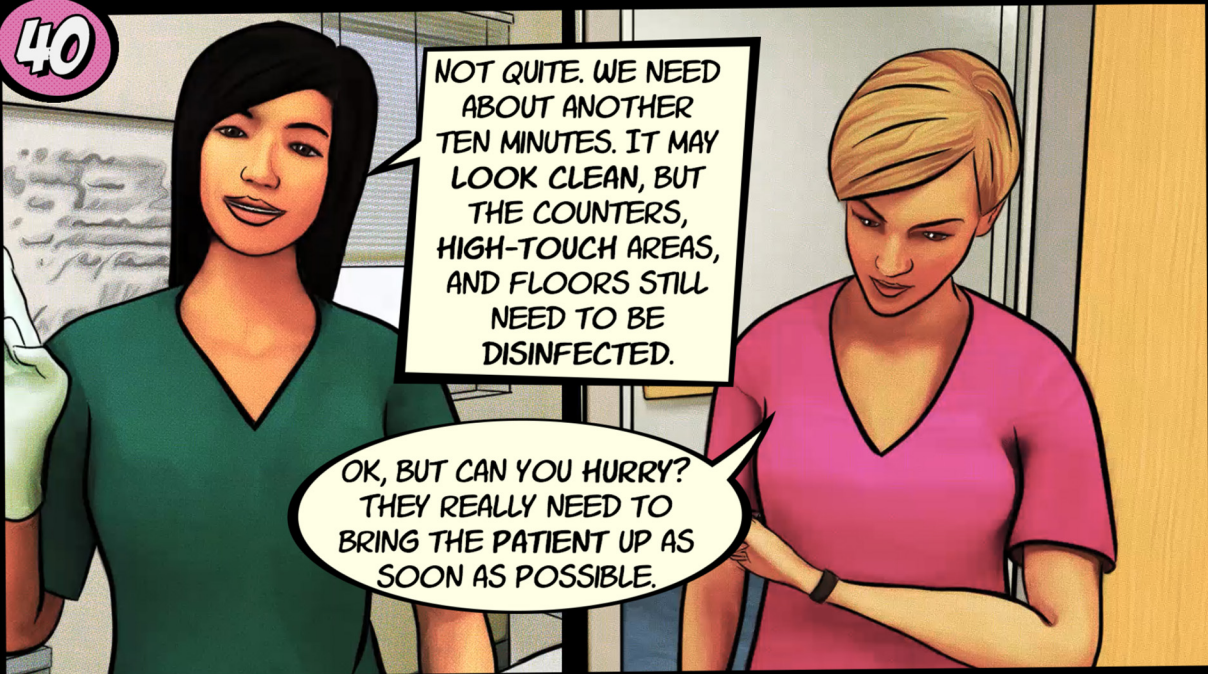
HI. GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN. THE PATIENT IN THIS ROOM WAS DISCHARGED, AND WE HAVE ANOTHER ONE WAITING TO COME IN. CAN YOU HELP ME FINISH CLEANING?

39



OH HI SOFIA. LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE ABOUT DONE, RIGHT?

40



NOT QUITE. WE NEED ABOUT ANOTHER TEN MINUTES. IT MAY LOOK CLEAN, BUT THE COUNTERS, HIGH-TOUCH AREAS, AND FLOORS STILL NEED TO BE DISINFECTED.

OK, BUT CAN YOU HURRY? THEY REALLY NEED TO BRING THE PATIENT UP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

41



I KNOW ANGELA NEEDS THIS ROOM, BUT I ALSO KNOW SHE CARES THAT IT IS PROPERLY DISINFECTED.

ON BUSY DAYS, THERE IS MORE PRESSURE TO CLEAN FASTER. HOWEVER, WE NEED TO KEEP EVERYONE SAFE, AND WE ALWAYS NEED TO THOROUGHLY CLEAN EACH ROOM.

42

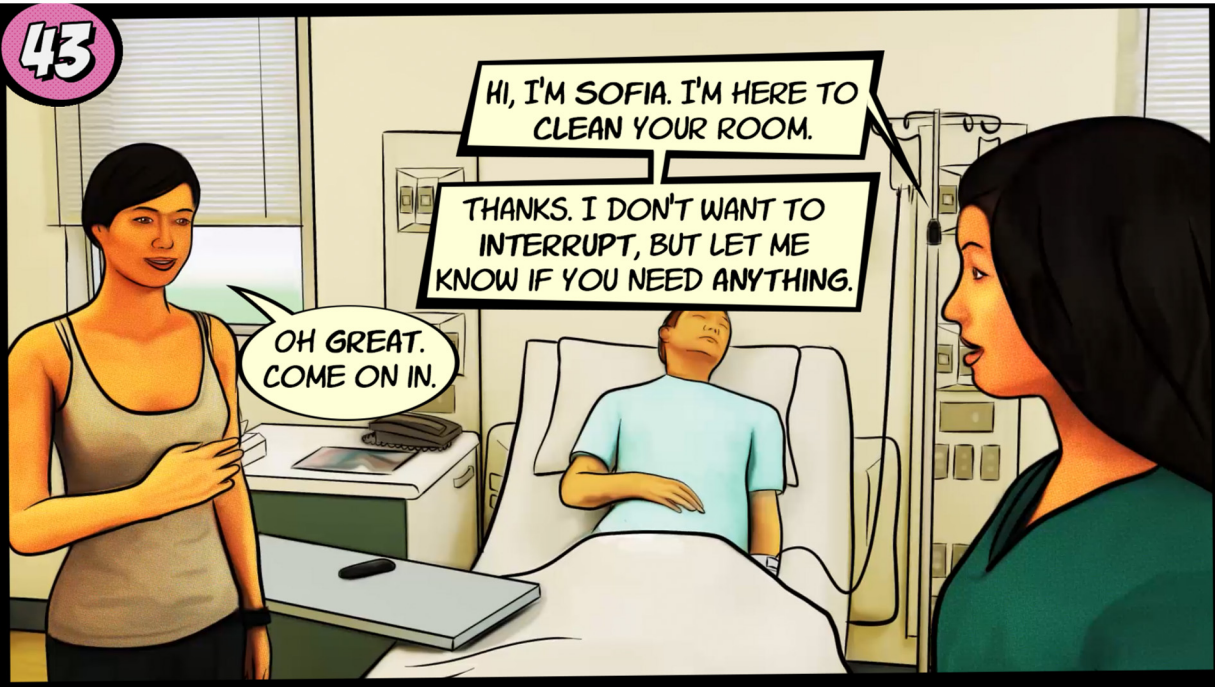


OK, ANGELA, WE'RE DONE IN HERE.

NOT A PROBLEM. I'M HEADING TO MY NEXT ROOM; I'LL SEE YOU LATER!

THANK YOU, SOFIA! SORRY IF I RUSHED YOU. I REALLY APPRECIATE HOW CAREFUL YOU ARE TO KEEP EVERYONE SAFE.

43

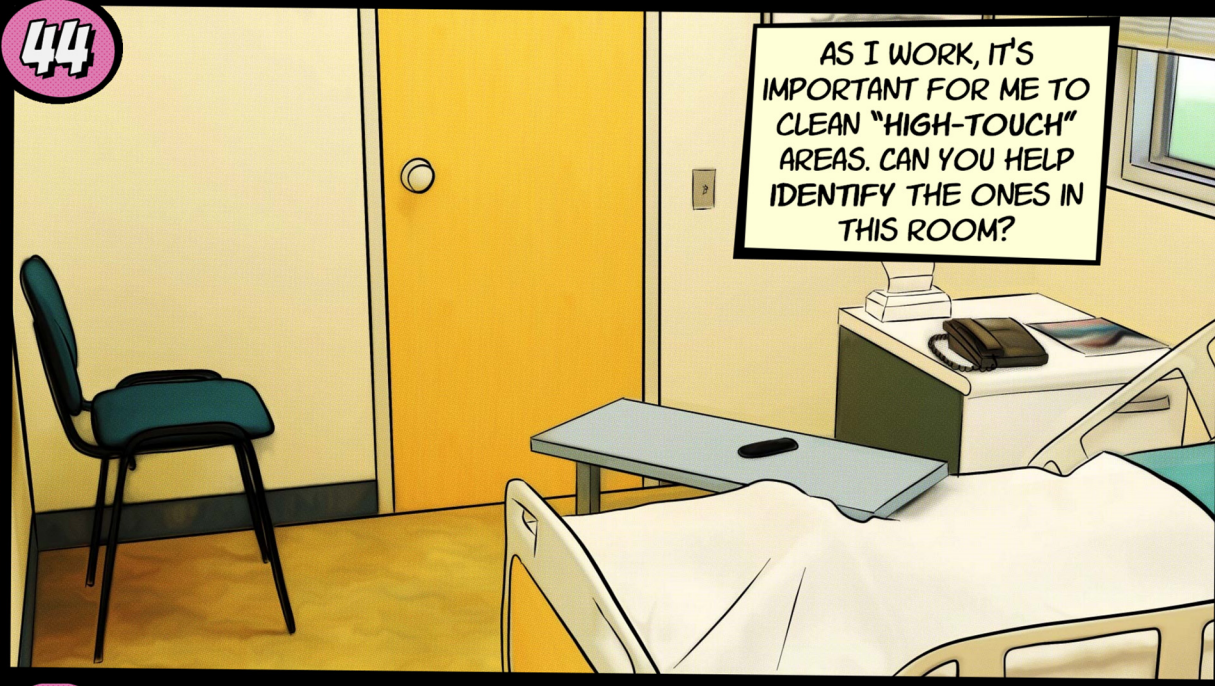


HI, I'M SOFIA. I'M HERE TO CLEAN YOUR ROOM.

THANKS. I DON'T WANT TO INTERRUPT, BUT LET ME KNOW IF YOU NEED ANYTHING.

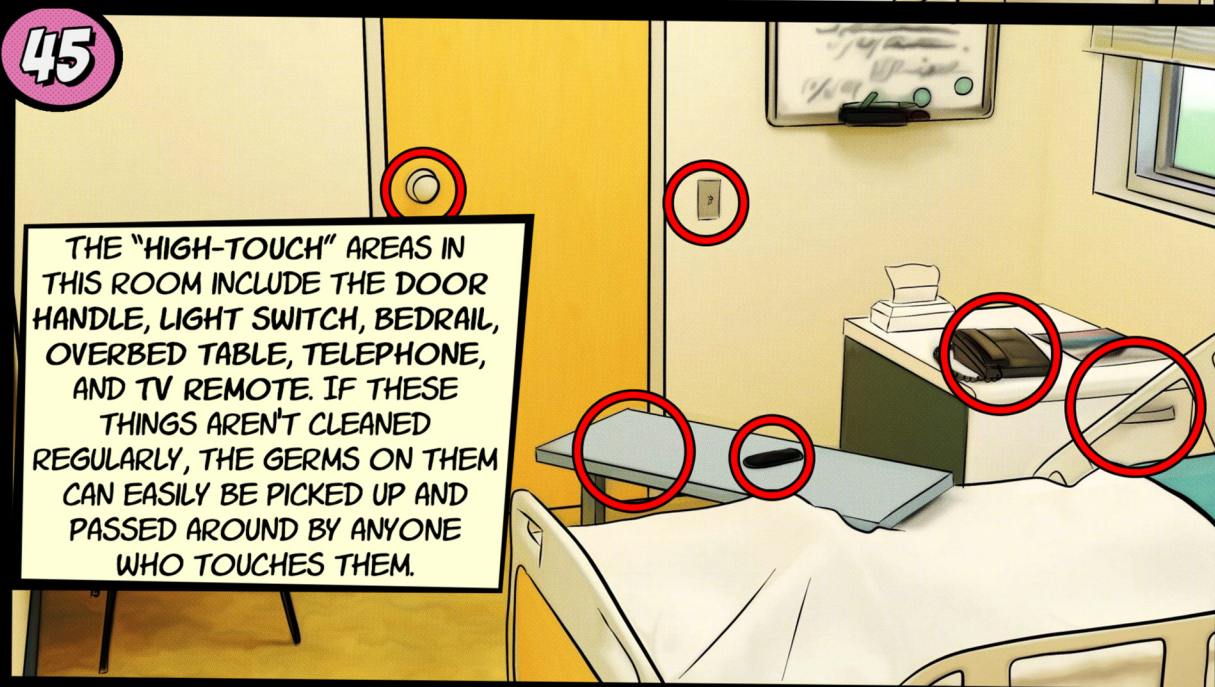
OH GREAT. COME ON IN.

44



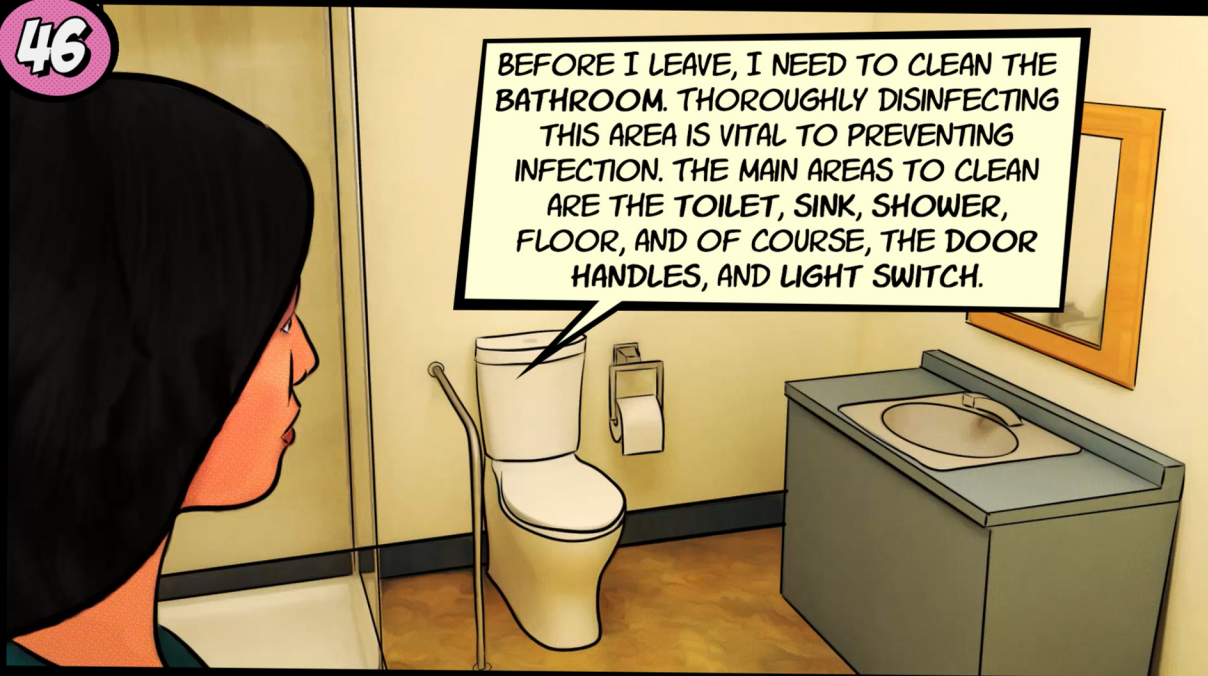
AS I WORK, IT'S IMPORTANT FOR ME TO CLEAN "HIGH-TOUCH" AREAS. CAN YOU HELP IDENTIFY THE ONES IN THIS ROOM?

45



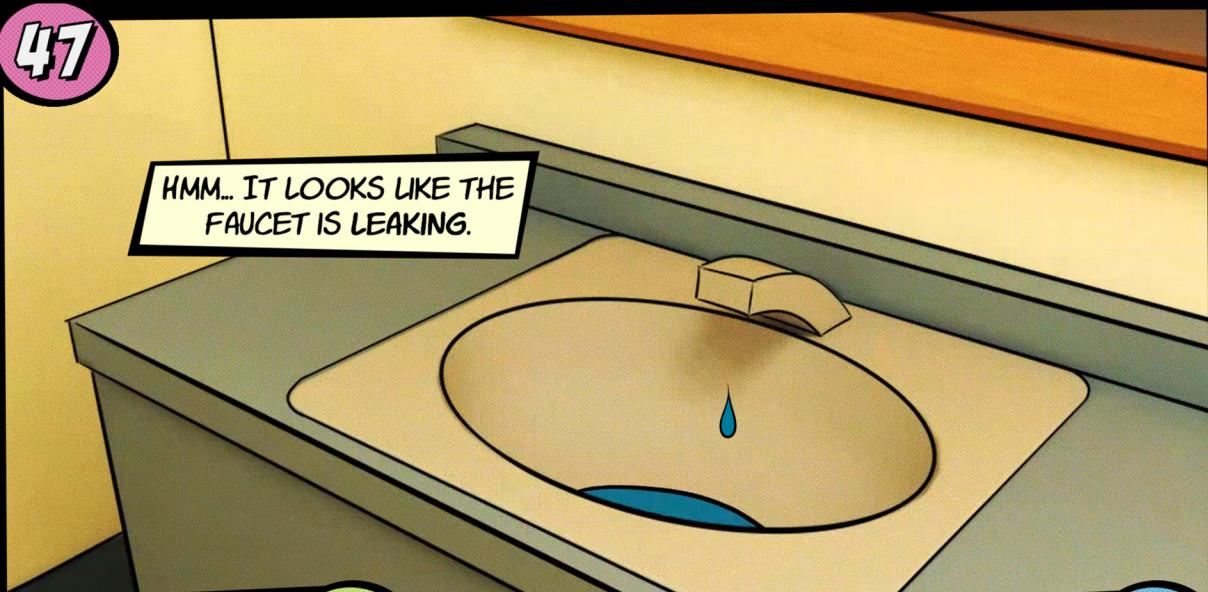
THE "HIGH-TOUCH" AREAS IN THIS ROOM INCLUDE THE DOOR HANDLE, LIGHT SWITCH, BEDRAIL, OVERBED TABLE, TELEPHONE, AND TV REMOTE. IF THESE THINGS AREN'T CLEANED REGULARLY, THE GERMS ON THEM CAN EASILY BE PICKED UP AND PASSED AROUND BY ANYONE WHO TOUCHES THEM.

46



BEFORE I LEAVE, I NEED TO CLEAN THE BATHROOM. THOROUGHLY DISINFECTING THIS AREA IS VITAL TO PREVENTING INFECTION. THE MAIN AREAS TO CLEAN ARE THE TOILET, SINK, SHOWER, FLOOR, AND OF COURSE, THE DOOR HANDLES, AND LIGHT SWITCH.

47



HMM... IT LOOKS LIKE THE FAUCET IS LEAKING.

CALL AND REPORT IT IMMEDIATELY...

48

REPORT IT AT THE END OF THE SHIFT...

50

48



TALIA, THERE IS A LEAKING FAUCET IN ROOM 517.



THANKS FOR LETTING ME KNOW - I'LL NOTIFY MAINTENANCE RIGHT AWAY.

49



SKIP TO...

53

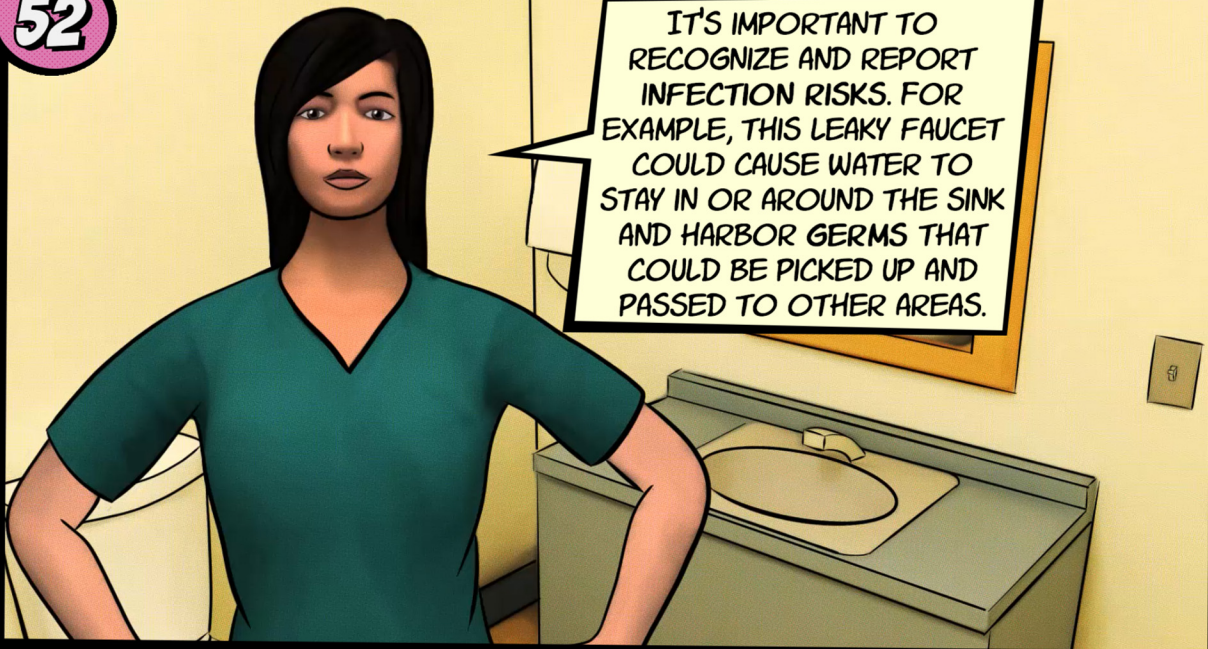
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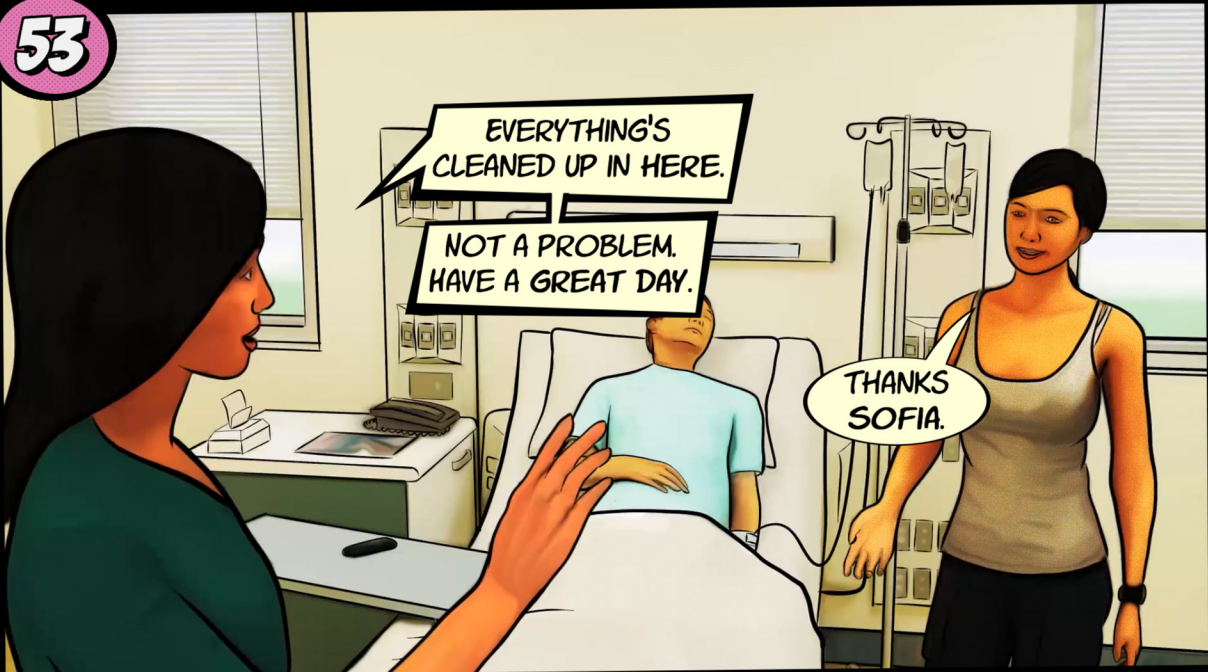
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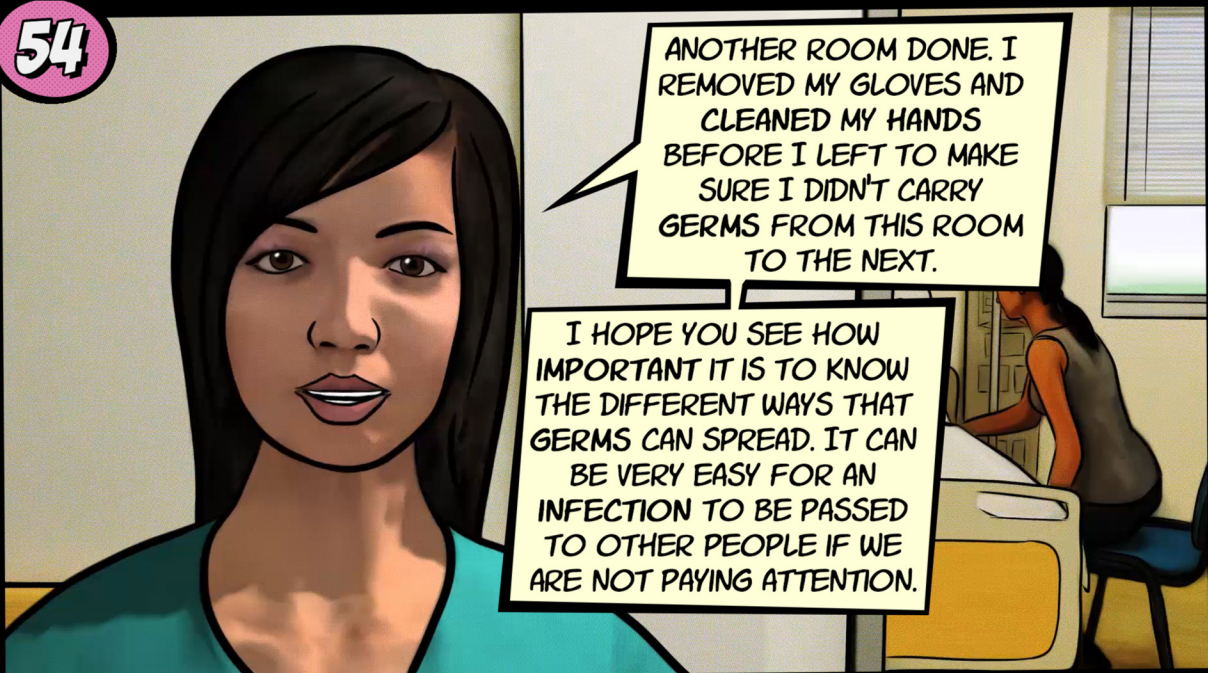
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53



54



55

HI RYAN. READY FOR OUR LUNCH WITH TALIA?

YEP. I'M STARVING! I'VE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS ALL MORNING.

56

HI SOFIA. HI RYAN. THANKS FOR JOINING ME FOR LUNCH TODAY! SINCE IT'S EVS WEEK, I HAD PIZZA DELIVERED FROM THAT NEW PLACE ACROSS THE STREET.

SWEET! THANKS TALIA.

YES, THANK YOU. IT LOOKS DELICIOUS.

57

I WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW HOW PROUD I AM OF YOU AND OUR WHOLE TEAM. INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL IS VITAL TO KEEPING PATIENTS SAFE AND WE PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN THAT. NO MATTER HOW BUSY WE ARE, IT MUST ALWAYS BE OUR TOP PRIORITY.

58



WHAT WE DO CAN MEAN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SOMEONE PICKING UP A GERM AND GETTING SICK, OR NOT PICKING UP THAT GERM AND AVOIDING AN INFECTION.

59

BOTH OF YOU ARE KEY PLAYERS IN OUR WORK TO PREVENT AND CONTROL INFECTION. THANKS FOR JOINING ME FOR LUNCH, AND LET ME KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS.



THANKS TALIA! BEING A PART OF THIS TEAM MEANS A LOT TO ME.

SAME HERE. I LIKE BEING ABLE TO HELP PEOPLE AND KEEP THEM SAFE AND HEALTHY.

60



THANKS FOR JOINING US TODAY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW WE AS EVS WORKERS KEEP EVERYONE SAFE.

GOOD LUCK, AND WE'LL SEE YOU AROUND!

YES. YOU ARE A KEY PLAYER IN THE BATTLE AGAINST INFECTION!