



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **AMA, ASN, CDC Launch Continuing Medical Education Modules to Help Improve Infection Control in Dialysis Settings**

CHICAGO – The American Medical Association (AMA), in collaboration with the American Society of Nephrology (ASN) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), today announced the availability of new continuing medical education (CME) modules for health care professionals aimed at improving infection control in outpatient dialysis settings.

As highlighted in the February CDC [Vital Signs report](#), patients on dialysis are at high risk for bloodstream infections. “Dialysis-associated bloodstream infections are preventable—not inevitable,” said Shannon Novosad, M.D., M.P.H., Dialysis Safety Team Lead in CDC’s Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion. “Prevention efforts that equitably promote lower-risk vascular access types and continued use of infection prevention and control best practices can save lives.”

The new modules highlight the importance of infection control and outline steps frontline health care professionals should take to help protect their patients, themselves, and their colleagues from preventable infections. The new 4-part video education series is part of the AMA and ASN’s work with CDC’s national infection control training collaborative, [Project Firstline](#).

“The AMA recognizes that everyone, especially those on the front lines of health care, has a role in preventing infections and keeping patients safe. We are pleased to collaborate with CDC’s Project Firstline and ASN to help ensure all members of the health care team have the resources they need to practice effective infection control and understand why moments matter in infection prevention and control. We believe these modules and ongoing work with the national training collaborative will help prevent the spread of avoidable infections and improve health outcomes for our patients,” said AMA President Jack Resneck, MD.

The interactive video modules outline 4 key infection control measures needed in a dialysis setting, including proper hand hygiene, injection safety, personal protective equipment, and environmental cleaning and disinfection. The modules aim to help health care professionals understand the importance of each infection control measure, recognize common mistakes to avoid, and identify the actions they should take to practice effective infection control.

“Every individual in the dialysis facility plays a critical role in infection prevention. Infection remains among the top two leading causes of hospitalization and death in people on dialysis. The dialysis facility design is unique, demands on staff are complex, and there are risks of infection transmission with each life-sustaining treatment. ASN is proud to partner with the AMA and CDC’s Project Firstline to share infection prevention educational materials specifically designed with dialysis facility staff in mind. When it comes to preventing infection in people on dialysis, moments matter,” said ASN President Michelle Josephson, MD, FASN.

To view the new infection control modules, visit the [AMA Ed Hub](#)<sup>™</sup> or ASN's website at the following [link](#). The modules are free, and each qualifies for 0.75 *AMA PRA Category 1 credit(s)*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians can earn CME and other health professionals will be able to obtain a certificate of participation upon completion of each activity quiz.

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**About the AMA**

The American Medical Association is the physicians' powerful ally in patient care. As the only medical association that convenes 190+ state and specialty medical societies and other critical stakeholders, the AMA represents physicians with a unified voice to all key players in health care. The AMA leverages its strength by removing the obstacles that interfere with patient care, leading the charge to prevent chronic disease and confront public health crises, and, driving the future of medicine to tackle the biggest challenges in health care. For more information, visit [ama-assn.org](http://ama-assn.org).

**About ASN**

Since 1966, ASN has been leading the fight to prevent, treat, and cure kidney diseases throughout the world by educating health professionals and scientists, advancing research and innovation, communicating new knowledge and advocating for the highest quality care for patients. ASN has nearly 21,000 members representing 140 countries. For more information, visit [www.asn-online.org](http://www.asn-online.org) and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Instagram](#).

**About CDC Project Firstline**

Project Firstline provides innovative and accessible infection control education for all frontline healthcare workers— so they can protect their patients, their coworkers and themselves from infectious disease threats in health care. As a collaborative, Project Firstline brings together more than 75 healthcare, academic, and public health partners to reach a wide range of healthcare audiences and settings across the country. Project Firstline offers educational resources in a variety of formats to meet the diverse learning needs and preferences of the healthcare workforce. For more information, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/projectfirstline/index.html>

**Accreditation Statement:** The American Medical Association is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

**Designation Statement:** The AMA designates this enduring material activity for a maximum of 0.75 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>TM</sup>. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Successful completion of this CME activity, which includes participation in the evaluation component, enables the participant to earn up to:

- 0.75 Medical Knowledge MOC points in the American Board of Internal Medicine's (ABIM) Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program;
- 0.75 Self-Assessment points in the American Board of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery's (ABOHNS) Continuing Certification program;
- 0.75 MOC points in the American Board of Pediatrics' (ABP) Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program; and
- 0.75 Lifelong Learning points in the American Board of Pathology's (ABPath) Continuing Certification program;

It is the CME activity provider's responsibility to submit participant completion information to ACCME for the purpose of granting MOC credit.