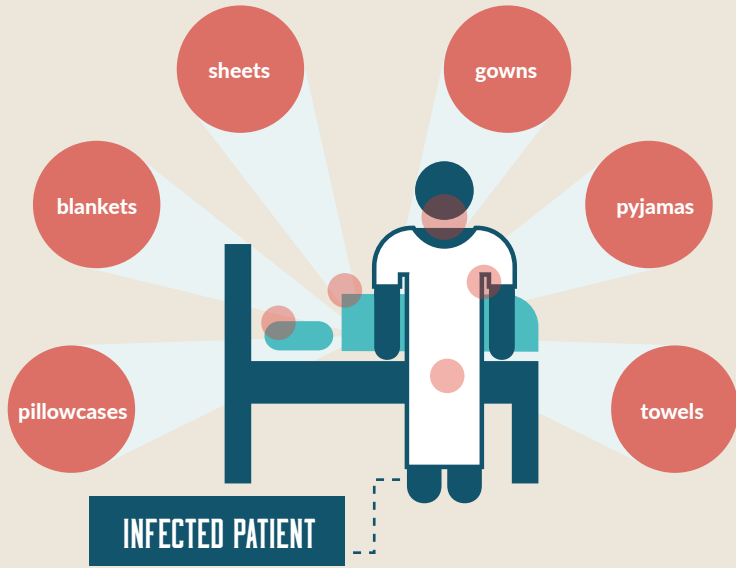


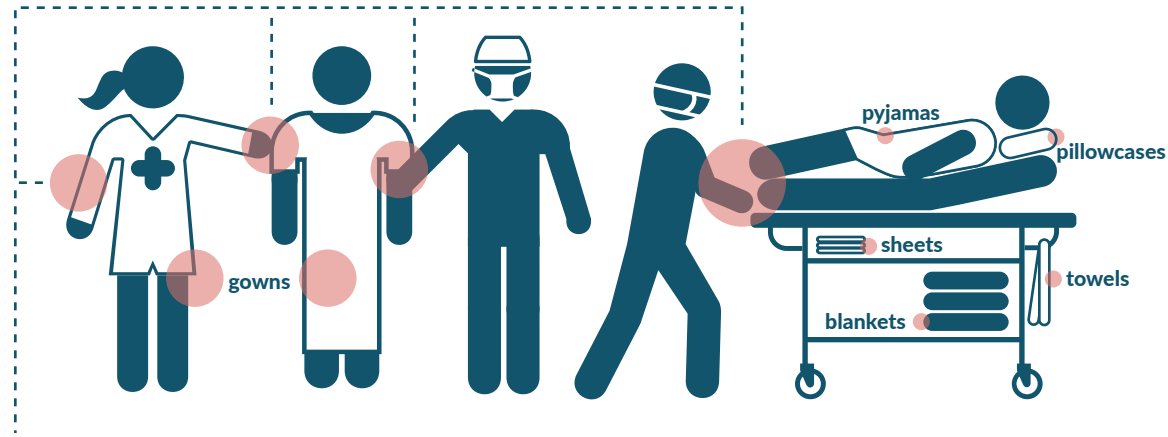


TEXTILE PRODUCTS ARE WIDELY USED IN THE HOSPITAL ENVIRONMENT. SOME OF THE PRODUCTS ARE IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE PATIENTS.



BACTERIA AND SKIN

Humans shed bacteria directly from their skin. Bacterial shedding is greater in patients than in healthy individuals.



Contamination of clean laundry occurs shortly after use.

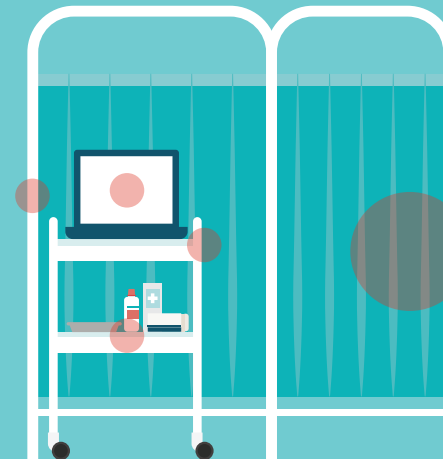
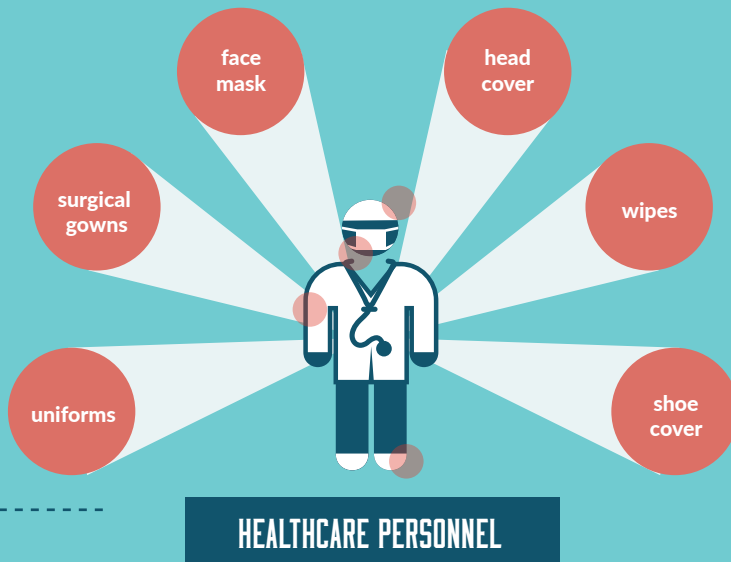
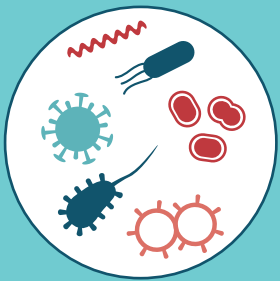


Humans shed bacteria directly from their skin, nasal cavities, genitalia area, and sweat onto the textiles they use.

Contaminated textiles can lead to other surface contamination and patient contamination.



There are numerous routes for transmission of pathogenic organisms from soft surfaces to susceptible patients.



Pathogenic organisms are present on a wide range of medical textiles, and can grow and proliferate on textiles as well as survive for months at a time.