

# ACIPC

Australasian College  
for Infection Prevention and Control

## Aseptic Technique Symposium

**Sue Atkins**

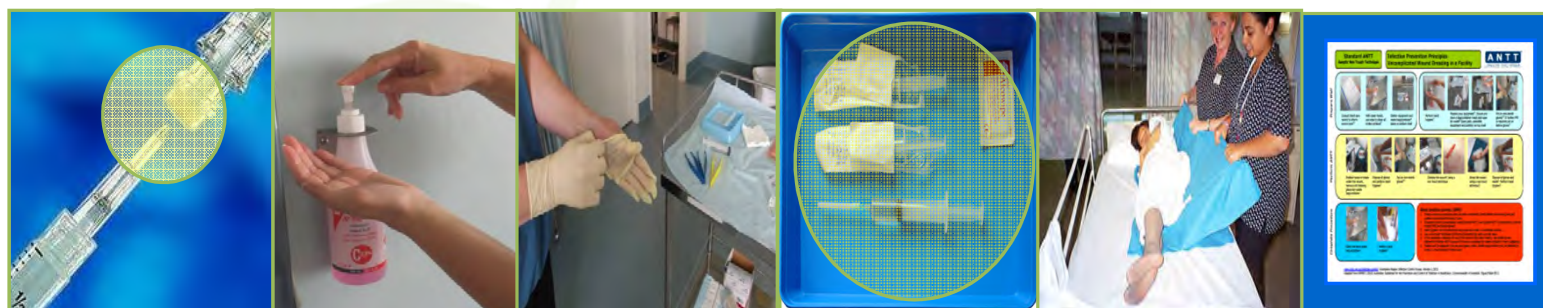
Grampians Region Infection Control Consultant  
Service and Workforce Development  
Department of Health  
Victoria



## Session Two

- Principles versus prescriptive steps
- The importance of understanding terminology
- Aseptic technique principles in practice
- Summary

## Aseptic Technique in Practice

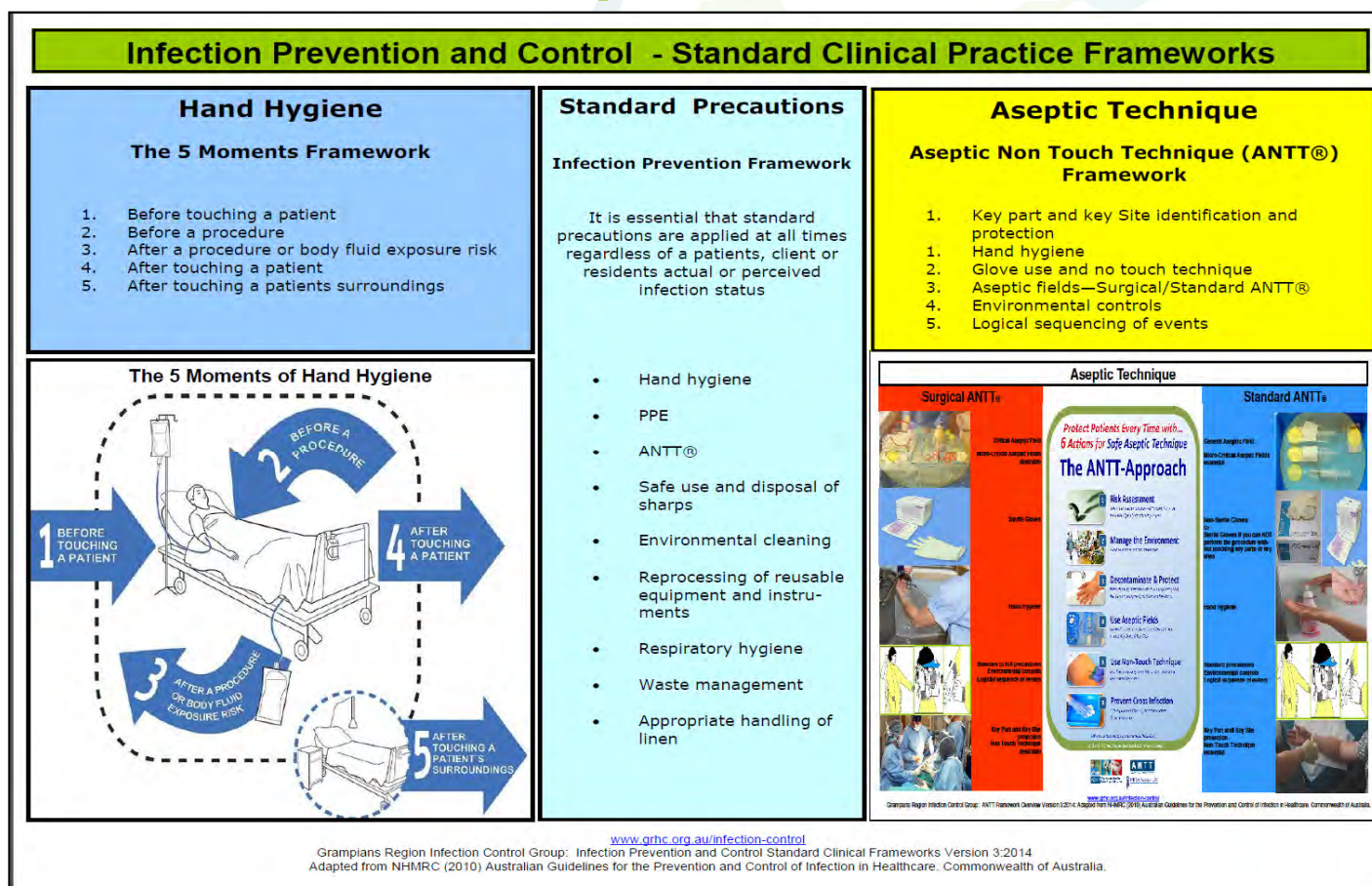


### Standard clinical practice frameworks

Using frameworks based on principles rather than relying on prescriptive steps will:

- ✓ enable healthcare workers to make safe practice choices
- ✓ eliminate ritualistic practices
- ✓ enable healthcare workers to understand the consequences of their actions
- ✓ contribute to a reduction in HAI

## Standard clinical practice frameworks



# Terminology

Accurate terminology is required in order to promote clarity of practice. An understanding of aseptic technique begins with recalling the definitions of three important terms:

- Sterile free from microorganisms
- Asepsis freedom from infection or infectious (pathogenic) material
- Clean free from dirt, marks or stains

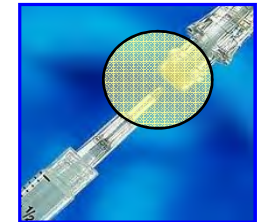
Understanding these terms will guide safe practice choices



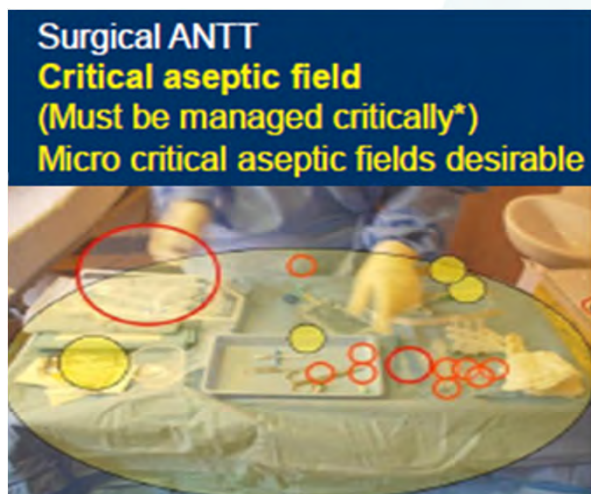
## Core Infection Prevention Components of Aseptic Technique using the ANTT® Framework

In ANTT®, asepsis is promoted and/or ensured by the use of six core infection prevention and control components:

1. Key-Part and Key-Site identification and protection
2. Hand hygiene
3. Glove use and a non touch technique
4. Aseptic Fields to ensure or promote asepsis
5. Environmental controls
6. Sequencing of procedure events



## Promoting or ensuring asepsis!





## Surgical or Standard ANTT®

### Surgical ANTT®

Surgical ANTT® is demanded when procedures are technically complex, involve extended periods of time (usually longer than 20 minutes), large open Key-Sites or large or numerous Key-Parts.

To counter these risks, a Main Critical Aseptic Field and sterile gloves are required and often full protective precautions. Surgical ANTT® should still utilise Critical-Micro Aseptic Fields and non touch technique where practical to do so.

Examples:  
Surgical procedures  
Large complex wound dressings  
CVC insertion



### Standard ANTT®

Clinical procedures managed with Standard ANTT® will usually be technically simple, short in duration (approximately less than 20 minutes), and involve relatively few and small Key-Sites and Key-Parts.

Standard ANTT® requires a Main General Aseptic Field and typically non-sterile gloves (sterile gloves should be used if it is necessary to touch key parts and key sites directly). The use of Critical Micro-Aseptic Fields and a non touch technique is essential to protect Key-Parts and Key-Sites.

Examples:  
Change of supra pubic catheter  
Uncomplicated wound dressings  
IV insertion  
Taking blood/ blood cultures  
Antibiotic preparation



## Risk Assessment

Consider the practice variables:

- The 6 core IP components
  - the complexity of the procedure
  - how invasive the procedure is
  - the duration of the procedure
  - number and size of key parts and key sites
- Your competency or confidence

**Surgical ANTT**  
**Critical aseptic field**  
(Must be managed critically\*)  
Micro critical aseptic fields desirable



**Standard ANTT**  
**General aseptic field**  
(Doesn't require to be managed critically\*)  
Micro critical aseptic fields essential





# Aseptic Technique

## Surgical ANTT®



Critical Aseptic Field  
Micro-Critical Aseptic Fields  
desirable



Sterile Gloves



Hand Hygiene



Standard to full precautions  
Environmental controls  
Logical sequence of events



Key Part and Key Site  
protection  
Non Touch Technique  
desirable

Protect Patients Every Time with...  
6 Actions for Safe Aseptic Technique

## The ANTT-Approach



### 1 Risk Assessment

Select Standard or Surgical-ANTT according to the technical difficulty of achieving asepsis



### 2 Manage the Environment

Avoid or remove contamination risks



### 3 Decontaminate & Protect

Hand cleaning, personal protective equipment (PPE).  
Disinfecting equipment, surfaces and Key-Parts



### 4 Use Aseptic Fields

General, Critical and Micro Critical Aseptic Fields  
protect Key-Parts & Key-Sites



### 5 Use Non-Touch Technique

Key-Parts must only come into contact with other  
Key-Parts & Key-Sites



### 6 Prevent Cross Infection

Safe equipment disposal, decontamination  
& hand cleaning

ANTT is a unique type of aseptic technique (NICE 2012)

For the ANTT Clinical Practice Framework see - [www.antt.org](http://www.antt.org)



[www.grhc.org.au/infection-control](http://www.grhc.org.au/infection-control)

## Standard ANTT®

General Aseptic Field

Micro-Critical Aseptic Fields  
essential



Non-Sterile Gloves

Or  
Sterile Gloves if you can NOT  
perform the procedure with-  
out touching key parts or key  
sites



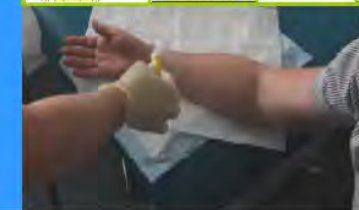
Hand Hygiene



Standard precautions  
Environmental controls  
Logical sequence of events



Key Part and Key Site  
protection  
Non Touch Technique  
essential



Grampians Region Infection Control Group: ANTT Framework Overview Version 3:2014: Adapted from NHMRC (2010) Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare. Commonwealth of Australia.

Australasian College for Infection Prevention and Control Ltd

W [www.acipc.org.au](http://www.acipc.org.au)

## Antibiotic Preparation



**Standard  
Aseptic Technique**

**General  
Aseptic Field**

**Micro-Critical  
Aseptic Field**

**Non Touch Technique**



## Emptying an IDC



**Standard  
Aseptic Technique**

**General  
Aseptic Field**

**Micro-Critical  
Aseptic Field**

**Non Touch Technique**





## Blood Collection



## IV Medication



**Standard  
Aseptic Technique**

**General  
Aseptic Field  
Micro-Critical  
Aseptic Field**

**Non Touch Technique**

**Standard  
Aseptic Technique**

**General  
Aseptic Field  
Micro-Critical  
Aseptic Field**

**Non Touch Technique**





## Cannulation



**Standard  
Aseptic Technique**

**General  
Aseptic Field**

**Micro-Critical  
Aseptic Field**

**Non Touch Technique**



## IDC Insertion



**Surgical  
Aseptic Technique**

**Critical  
Aseptic Field**

**Micro-Critical  
Aseptic Field**

**Non Touch Technique**





## Wound Care—Facility



**Surgical  
Aseptic Technique**

**Critical  
Aseptic Field**

**Micro-Critical  
Aseptic Field**

**Non Touch Technique**



## Wound Care—Home



**Standard  
Aseptic Technique**

**General  
Aseptic Field**

**Micro-Critical  
Aseptic Field**

**Non Touch Technique**





## Blood Glucose Test



**Standard  
Aseptic Technique**

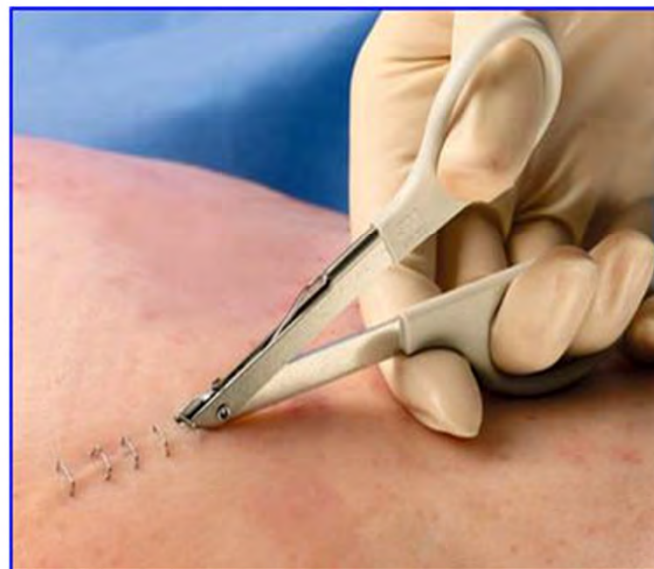
**General  
Aseptic Field**

**Micro-Critical  
Aseptic Field**

**Non Touch Technique**



## Staple Removal



**Standard  
Aseptic Technique**

**General  
Aseptic Field**

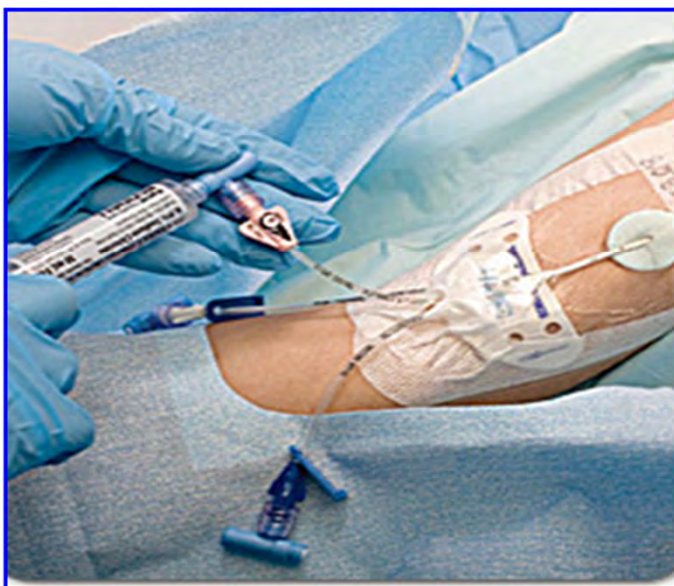
**Micro-Critical  
Aseptic Field**

**Non Touch Technique**





## PICC Insertion



## PICC Dressing



**Surgical  
Aseptic Technique**

**Critical  
Aseptic Field**

**Micro-Critical  
Aseptic Field**

**Non Touch Technique**

**Standard  
Aseptic Technique**

**General  
Aseptic Field**

**Micro-Critical  
Aseptic Field**

**Non Touch Technique**



## The wrong way! and The Right Way!

### Anaesthetic Videos

**These videos were kindly made and supplied to ANTT by Dr Toby Everett – Anaesthetist**

**Please note: These videos use HUMOUR to convey some serious points about practice. The poor practice examples shown are INTENDED to demonstrate poor practice.**

**The video clips demonstrate that performing safe aseptic technique with suitable equipment does not take significantly longer to perform than poor aseptic technique with poor equipment.**



**Wrong Way!**
















**Right Way!**





## Summary

Aseptic Technique		
<b>Surgical ANTT®</b>	<b>Standard ANTT®</b>	
 Critical Aseptic Field Micro-Critical Aseptic Fields desirable	 General Aseptic Field Micro-Critical Aseptic Fields essential	<b>Protect Patients Every Time with... 6 Actions for Safe Aseptic Technique</b> <b>The ANTT-Approach</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Risk Assessment</b> <small>Select Standard or Surgical-ANTT according to the technical difficulty of achieving asepsis</small></li> <li><b>Manage the Environment</b> <small>Avoid or remove contamination risks</small></li> <li><b>Decontaminate &amp; Protect</b> <small>Hand cleaning, personal protective equipment (PPE), Disinfecting equipment, surfaces and Key-Parts</small></li> <li><b>Use Aseptic Fields</b> <small>General, Critical and Micro Critical Aseptic Fields protect Key-Parts &amp; Key-Sites</small></li> <li><b>Use Non-Touch Technique</b> <small>Key-Parts must only come into contact with other Key-Parts &amp; Key-Sites</small></li> <li><b>Prevent Cross Infection</b> <small>Safe equipment disposal, decontamination &amp; hand cleaning</small></li> </ol> <p><small>ANTT is a unique type of aseptic technique (NICE 2013) For the ANTT Clinical Practice Framework see - <a href="http://www.antt.org">www.antt.org</a></small></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">    </div> <p><small><a href="http://www.grhic.org.au/infection-control">www.grhic.org.au/infection-control</a></small></p>
 Sterile Gloves	 Non-Sterile Gloves Or Sterile Gloves if you can NOT perform the procedure without touching key parts or key sites	
 Hand Hygiene	 Hand Hygiene	
 Standard to full precautions Environmental controls Logical sequence of events	 Standard precautions Environmental controls Logical sequence of events	
 Key Part and Key Site protection Non Touch Technique desirable	 Key Part and Key Site protection Non Touch Technique essential	
<p>Grampians Region Infection Control Group: ANTT Framework Overview Version 3:2014; Adapted from NHMRC (2010) Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare. Commonwealth of Australia.</p>		

## References / Acknowledgments

This presentation has largely been based on the national infection control guidelines listed below to ensure the content reflects healthcare in Australia. These guidelines can be accessed from the below web link.

NHMRC. (2010). Australian guidelines for the prevention and control of infection in healthcare. Commonwealth of Australia. Sections B1.7 and B5.4.

[www.nhmrc.gov.au/node/30290/](http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/node/30290/)

This presentation has also been based on the resources provided by the Association for Safe Aseptic Practice (ASAP) UK to maintain the integrity of the ANTT® framework founded by ASAP. These resources can be accessed from the below web link.

Aseptic Non Touch technique (ANTT®) A Practice Framework for Clinical Practice V2.8 2012.  
The Association for Safe Aseptic Practice (ASAP)

[www.antt.org.uk](http://www.antt.org.uk)



## Questions or Access to Resources

Sue Atkins

Grampians Region Infection Control Consultant

Service and Workforce Development

Department of Health

Victoria

[sue.e.atkins@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:sue.e.atkins@health.vic.gov.au)