## Purpose

# To use surveillance data to detect and prevent infectious disease outbreaks

# **Procedure**

1. An outbreak is an excess over the expected level of a disease within an area
2. During an outbreak, the appointed Infection Preventionist in consultation with the Medical Director has the authority to take the following actions:
3. Relocation of residents
4. Confine residents to their rooms
5. Restrict visitors
6. Obtain cultures (with physician orders)
7. Isolate
8. Obtain physician orders for the administration of relevant treatment
9. In case of infectious disease outbreak, the following people will be notified:
10. Director of Nursing
11. Administrator
12. Executive Director
13. Medical Director
14. Division Director of Clinical Operations
15. Local Health Department if required
16. The occurrence of a single verified case of TB, influenza, scabies, or infectious gastroenteritis (such as salmonellosis) should be investigated as an outbreak
17. The appointed Infection Preventionist will review the log of nosocomial infections on an ongoing basis looking for clusters and trends
18. Single cases of unusual or epidemiologically significant nosocomial infections will be thoroughly investigated and are included in the Ohio Department of Health Reportable Disease listing
19. The Infection Preventionist will document findings of clusters of infections and list steps taken to investigate and treat the cause of the outbreak
20. The Infection Preventionist will also study the steps taken with the intent of improving existing processes and preventing future outbreaks
21. All findings will be reported and discussed at the Health Center’s Quality Assurance Committee Meeting