

Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education

29 CFR 1910.134	OSHA Regulation pertaining to Respiratory Protection for healthcare workers listed in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).
Abduction	Movement of a body part away from the central plane of the body, as opposed to adduction which is to pull the body part inwards, towards the body.
Ablation	Surgical excision or amputation of a body part or tissue, or destruction of its function.
Abscess	A cavity filled with pus and surrounded by inflamed tissue. <u>Sterile</u> abscesses are caused by a non-bacterial inflammatory response.
Absorbable Dusting Powder (ADP)	A glove donning powder consisting of cornstarch cross-linked with epichlorohydrin or phosphorus oxychloride with less than 2% magnesium oxide as defined in the United States Pharmacopoeia (USP). Must be capable of being boiled in saline for 20 minutes and stand for 24 hours without dissolving. More absorbable by the body's immune system than talcum powder, but still the cause of several wound and inhalation complications including delayed healing, granulomas, adhesions, increased risk of infection, powder emboli, etc.
Accelerator	A chemical used as a catalyst to accelerate the molecular crosslinking (curing) of product during production. In some cases, individuals may develop a dermatitis to some of the chemicals used as accelerators.
Acceptable quality level (AQL)	The acceptable quality set for the average results of several production lots of product.
Access ports to IV infusion line	Means of infusing drugs, blood, nutrition, fluids. May be slit hub needless ports, puncture hubs (using needles) or leur connectors.
Acid fast	Bacteria, such as <i>Mycobacteria</i> (e.g. tuberculosis, leprosy), that are part of the 1% of bacteria which are neither Gram (+) nor (-). They do not decolorized when rinsed with acid after being stained with specific microbiological stains.
Acidemia	A decreased pH of the blood below normal range (normal range is 7.35-7.45).
Acidosis	An abnormal increase in the acidity of the body's fluids, caused either by accumulation of acids or by depletion of bicarbonates; often used to describe the acid-base status of the blood. The opposite of alkalosis.
<i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i>	A gram negative pathogenic small rod shaped bacterium. It is mainly found in water, but can remain viable and infectious for days to weeks on dry, inanimate surfaces. The bacterium can cause many infections including pneumonia, wound infections, bacteremia, and meningitis. <i>Acinetobacter</i> is often resistant to those antibiotics normally used to treat it.
Activated white blood cells	Transformed immune cells that have achieved their full capacity to track down, acquire, and attack foreign threats. (e.g. activated macrophages, neutrophils, T-cells)
Active acquired immunity	Immunity obtained during a person's life that provides the ability to produce white cells or antibodies to a specific disease causing agent and build immune-memory for rapid defense against future challenges by the same organism.
Active carrier	An individual who harbors an infectious organism and can spread it to others. The carrier does not become ill.
Acute alveolar hyperventilation	A condition characterized by an abrupt increase in the volume of air inhaled in one minute (inhaled minute volume), and a decrease in carbon dioxide concentration.
Acute Pain	Having sudden or slow onset of any intensity of pain from mild to severe with an anticipated or predictable end and a duration of less than 6 months.
Acute ventilatory failure	An abrupt decrease in the respiratory minute ventilation caused by conditions such as acute hypoventilation.
Adduction	Movement of a body part towards the central plane of the body as opposed to abduction, which is to push the body part away from the body.
Adenosine triphosphate (ATP)	A compound in all living things which stores energy. The energy in ATP is released when ATP breaks down into adenosine diphosphate (ADP) providing energy to conduct, needed for organism to function. One method used to monitor the effectiveness of disinfection agents and procedures is to measure the level of ATP before and after disinfection. If ATP is undetectable after the task is completed, the disinfection process was performed successfully as lack of ADP only occurs if the bacteria or fungus is no longer viable.
Adenovirus	An enveloped, double-stranded DNA virus that is spherical in shape and causes pharyngitis, acute respiratory disease, pneumonia, conjunctivitis, genitourinary infections, and gastroenteritis. Transmission is through the fecal-oral route, direct contact hand-to-eye, or respiratory aerosol.
Adherence	Attachment of a pathogen to the tissue of a host; a necessary step in the, process of pathogenicity.
Adhesions	The formation of new fibrous tissue as a result of inflammation or injury, creating an abnormal union of surfaces or organs which are normally separate. Adhesions may contract, constricting organs, blocking normal function (ex: intestinal blockage) or strangling blood supplies. (ex: cutting of blood supply to kidneys). Adhesions are initiated by trauma, infections and foreign debris such as glove powder and lint.
Adhesions (pathogens)	Molecules located on the surface of a pathogen that bind to specific surface receptors on the cells of the host tissues and to surfaces to initiate biofilm formation.
Adjuvant	An amplifier or augments. Added to a vaccine, it improves the protective response of the recipient. Added to a wound (e.g., lint, powder, hair), it amplifies the immune response to the particles and distracts the immune response away from the smaller, contaminating bacteria which are perceived as less of a threat. These neglected bacteria are then then free to multiply and become an infection.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Administration sets	Tubing sets that connect the feeding bag or container to the feeding tube; or IV lines to vascular catheters.
Administrative controls	These controls include the development of policies, standards, procedures, and decision guidelines to address specific situations ranging from routine daily operations to disease outbreaks or disaster scenarios.
Adsorb	Adhere to the surface of a material (e.g. salt adsorbs to the surface of popcorn).
Adventitious breath sounds	Abnormal breath sounds.
Aerobe	Organism that requires oxygen for survival.
Afebrile	Without fever.
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)	AHRQ is the lead Federal agency charged with improving the quality, safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of healthcare
Airborne precautions	Designed to reduce the risk of airborne infectious agents. Airborne droplets (nuclei) are less than 5 microns in size and contain microorganisms that are infectious through the respiratory route. These tiny droplets are small enough to easily float in air currents allowing the organisms to spread easily and travel significant distances. An N95, P2, or higher level respirator should be worn when entering the patient's room and not removed until after leaving. Special air handling, negative pressure conditions with external exhaust are required. Infections requiring airborne precautions include measles, legionella, disseminated herpes, or Varicella zoster, avian flu, SARS, smallpox, and chicken pox (if caregiver is not immune).
Airway management	A general term which means to keep the airway clear; includes tracheal suction that may or may not require disconnection from the ventilator to allow suction of collecting mucus distal to ET or T tube. Many other procedures fall under the Airway Management name.
Airway resistance (Raw)	Is a concept used in respiratory physiology to describe mechanical factors which limit the access of inspired air to the pulmonary alveoli, and thus determine airflow.
Albumin	Plasma proteins synthesized in the liver, responsible for colloidal osmotic pressure; also a transport protein for fatty acids, bilirubin, many drugs, and hormones. A decrease in serum albumin may occur with metabolic stresses such as liver disease, malnutrition, severe burns, and kidney failure. Analysis of level and types of albumin in blood, urine and other fluids is the basis of many diagnostic tests.
Alcohol hand rubs	In appropriate concentrations, alcohol rubs provide the most rapid and greatest reduction in microbial counts on skin, but have no persistent activity unless provided by additives. They are NOT effective against spores (ex: <i>Clostridium difficile</i> (diarrhea), <i>Clostridium perfringens</i> (gas gangrene), <i>Clostridium tetani</i> (tetanus, lockjaw), anthrax spores (anthrax).
Alimentation	Nourishment, feeding.
Alkalemia	A blood condition in which the pH is greater than 7.4.
Alkalosis	A condition in which the body fluids have excess base (alkali). This is the opposite of excess acid (acidosis).
Allergen	An exogenous (foreign) antigen, usually a protein, that is able to elicit an IgE antibody response and thus activate mast cells. Every allergen is a type of antigen, but not every antigen is an allergen.
Allergic contact dermatitis	An allergic rash (Type IV) with physiological memory to the chemical sensitizer which caused it (meaning it will cause symptoms again with subsequent exposure).
Allergy	The immunologic state induced in a susceptible individual by an allergen; characterized by a marked change in the subject's reactivity (e.g., hay fever - Type I hypersensitivity; reaction to the metal nickel - Type IV hypersensitivity).
Allodynia	Pain due to a stimulus that does not normally provoke pain and can be either thermal or mechanical.
Alpha herpesviruses	Includes the herpes simplex viruses 1 and 2, and varicella zoster virus (shingles), which establish themselves within the sensory ganglia after initial infection and remain dormant until reactivated by a trigger such as stress.
Alveolar dead space	Alveolar dead space is caused by air contacting alveoli without blood flow in their adjacent pulmonary capillaries, i.e. ventilation without perfusion. As a result, no gas exchange can occur. Alveolar dead space is negligible in healthy individuals, but can increase dramatically in some lung diseases.
Alveolar ducts	The tiny end ducts of the branching airways that fill the lungs. Each lung holds approximately 1.5 to 2 million of them. The tubules divide into two or three alveolar sacs at the distal end. They are formed from the confluence openings of several alveoli. Distal terminations of alveolar ducts are atria which then end in alveolar sacs.
Alveolar macrophage	Macrophages that reside in the alveoli of the lung, where they ingest foreign material including bacteria that have evaded clearance mechanisms in the proximal portion of the respiratory system. Along with neutrophils, macrophages are the major phagocytic cells of the immune system.
Alveolar sac	The terminal portion of an air passageway within the lung. Its wall is made of simple squamous epithelium and is surrounded by a netting of pulmonary capillaries. This is the site of gas exchange. Each alveolar sac is connected to a respiratory bronchiole by an alveolar duct.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Alveolar ventilation (Va)	Alveolar ventilation (Va or VA) is the volume of air breathed in per minute that reaches the alveoli and takes part in gas exchange.
Alveolar-arterial oxygen tension gradient	The difference between the partial pressure of oxygen in the alveoli and that in the systemic arterial blood. The difference may indicate ventilation-perfusion mismatching.
Alveolar-capillary membrane	The structures and substances through which gases must pass as they diffuse from air to blood (oxygen) or blood to air (carbon dioxide). These include the alveolar fluid, surfactant, and cells of the alveolar wall. Interstitial space (tissue fluid), and cells of the capillary wall. SYN: respiratory membrane.
Ambu-bag	A device used by the clinician to manually ventilate a patient. Also referred to as Bag Valve Mask (BVM)
American Association of Textile Chemists and	A not-for-profit association that provides test method development, quality control materials, and professional networking for textile professionals throughout the world.
Amoebic dysentery	A diarrheal disease characterized by frequent, watery stools that often contain blood and mucus; caused by the protozoan <i>ameba Entamoeba histolytica</i> . Also spelled amebic dysentery.
Amylase	Enzymes that break down starch into smaller carbohydrate molecules.
Anabolism	Constructive processes by which living cells convert simple substances to more complex compounds; opposite of catabolism.
Anaerobe	An organism that multiplies and thrives in the absence of oxygen. <i>Clostridium difficile</i> is an anaerobe.
Analgesia	A decreased or absent sensation of pain.
Analgesic	A drug that relieves pain.
Analgesic Gap	Lapses in pain control that result in periods of increased or uncontrolled pain.
Anaphylaxis	An immediate systemic allergic reaction to a foreign protein or other substance. The reaction results from the release of histamine, serotonin and other vasoactive substances when allergen combines with IgE antibodies on mast cell surfaces. Mast cell mediators affect more than one organ. Subsequent flow of fluid from the circulatory system as a result of mast cell histamine release can have a local manifestation of hives, or local swelling and redness or a sudden blood pressure drop and rapid heart rate with possible fatal acute systemic shock. (e.g., peanut, penicillin, egg or Hevea natural rubber latex allergy)
Anastomosis	A natural communication between blood vessels, either directly or by means of connecting channels. Various anastomoses in coronary circulation provide collateral circulatory routes so that blood can reach a particular part of the heart through alternate pathways.
Anemic hypoxia	Hypoxia caused by a reduction in the amount of hemoglobin available for gas transport, because of reduced production of red blood cells, increased loss of red blood cells, or the presence of defective hemoglobin (e.g., methemoglobin, carboxyhemoglobin).
Anergy	Lack of activity; or an immunodeficient or immune depressed condition. For example, trauma patients experience an immunologic anergy for 7-14 days post-traumatic event, increasing their risk for acquiring an infection.
Anesthesia	Partial or complete loss of sensation, with or without loss of consciousness, as a result of disease, injury, or administration of pharmacologic agents. <i>Regional:</i> induced by injection of local anesthetic into a particular area of the body. <i>General:</i> that is complete; affecting the entire body, with loss of consciousness when the anesthetic acts on the brain.
Aneurysm	Dilation or ballooning of a portion of the wall of an artery.
Angioedema	Diffuse swelling. In Type I reactions, angioedema of the lips and eyes often occurs.
Angiography	Procedure in which cardiac catheterization is performed and an image is taken to identify coronary blockage or narrowing.
Angioplasty	Restoring patency of a blood vessel by balloon dilation, mechanical stripping of blockage, fibrinolytics or stent placement. SYN: interventional angiography.
Anoxia	A severe lack of oxygen; an extreme form of hypoxia.
Antegrade	Moving forward, or proceeding towards the front.
Anterior	Located on or near the front of an organ or on the ventral surface of the body in humans; pertaining to a surface or part situated before or toward the front; situated near or toward the head or part most nearly corresponding to a head.
Anterior longitudinal ligament	The broad, strong ligament attached to the ventral surfaces of the vertebral bodies. It extends from the occipital bone and the anterior tubercle of the atlas vertebra to the sacrum.
Anterior posterior view (AP)	The view in which the anterior and posterior view can be seen.
Anterior-to-posterior (AP) view	Anterior-to-posterior image taken by x-ray, fluoroscopy, magnetic resonance, or other "through the body" imaging.
Antibiogram	The result of laboratory testing for the sensitivity of an isolated bacterial strain to different antibiotics.
Antibiotic	An antimicrobial agent, derived from cultures of microorganisms or produced semisynthetically, used to treat infections (almost entirely bacterial infections).

Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education

Antibiotic resistance	The development of resistance to the action of an antibiotic to which the bacterial strain was formerly sensitive. Resistance can be inherited or acquired from another bacterium (ex. plasmid transfer)
Antibiotic-associated diarrhea (AAD)	Refers to diarrhea that develops in a person who is taking, or has recently taken antibiotics. The most common cause of severe antibiotic-associated diarrhea (AAD) is <i>Clostridium difficile</i> (<i>C. difficile</i> ; a.k.a.: <i>C. diff</i>).
Antibody	A substance formed in the body by B cells. They reacted very specifically with bacteria, viruses, allergens or other substances that initiated their production. Depending on their subtype, they can cause hypersensitivity (IgE) or resistance to infection (IgA, IgD, IgE, IgG, IgM). The Ig stands for immunoglobulin and the A, D, E, G, and M are the categories of antibodies. Antibodies have several functions. An antibody is specific to an antigen.
Antigen	Any substance that is capable of eliciting an immune response; a molecule that causes the creation of and subsequently combines with the antibody or antigen-specific receptor on a T-cell.
Antigenic chemicals	Chemical contact sensitizers that can elevate the level of sensitization to that specific chemical if the individual has the genetic capability to react. When their reaction threshold is reached, the sensitized individual, will present symptoms on subsequent exposures usually as allergic contact dermatitis (Type IV, delayed type hypersensitivity).
Antigenic drift	Refers to small, gradual, random point mutations in the genetic material responsible for the main viral surface proteins, hemagglutinin, and neuraminidase. Vaccines against initial virus may no longer be effective.
Antigenic shift (reassortment)	Antigenic shift refers to an abrupt, major change to produce a novel influenza A virus subtype in humans that was not currently circulating among people (see more information below under Influenza Type A and its subtypes). This can occur when viruses from two different host species (man and bird) infect the same cell and swap genetic information. Vaccines against either of the two original viruses will no longer be effective.
Antimicrobial	Any agent that kills or suppresses the growth of microorganisms. The term antimicrobial is an umbrella term of which antibiotics, antiseptics and disinfectants are subsets, etc.
Antimicrobial prophylaxis	Use of antimicrobial agents before an infection has occurred, to prevent a subsequent infection.
Antimicrobial resistance	Loss of activity against that microorganism. The mechanism of resistance may be associated with enzymatic inactivation of the drug or antibiotic, altered permeability barriers, an altered target protein in the microorganisms cell wall, or altered cytoplasm targets.
Antioxidant	In materials, antioxidants prevent deterioration when the product is exposed to air, extending the shelf life of the product (ex.: gloves, tires). A substance added to latex and synthetic substances (e.g., gloves) to prevent or delay deterioration of the glove by oxygen in air. Some can be contact sensitizers for dermatitis.
Antiperistaltic (anti-diarrheal) drugs	Depress enteral motor activity, reducing movement of feces through the intestines. Antiperistaltic drugs <u>must not be given</u> to patients with a <i>C. difficile</i> infection as the reduced flow keeps the toxin in contact with the areas of the intestinal wall for extended periods of time, amplifying the cellular destruction in that area, increasing the risk of toxic megacolon and intestinal perforation.
Antiseptic	Substance that arrest the growth or action of microorganisms by inhibiting their activity or by destroying them. The term is used especially for preparations applied topically to living tissue.
Antisera	Solutions of suspended antibodies that are commercially produced and used in the laboratory to identify particular microorganisms.
Antiserum	A serum that contains specific antibodies.
Anti-thrombic	Prevents blood clots.
Antitoxin	Antiserum that contains antibodies against specific toxins.
Anti-viral	An agent that inactivates a virus or that suppresses its ability to replicate, thus inhibiting its capability to multiply and reproduce.
Apnea	No breathing, no matter what the cause.
Arachnoid mater	Membranes. Specifically, the three membranes surrounding the brain and spinal cord (from outside inward, dura mater: arachnoid mater, and pia mater). SEE meninges.
Arbovirus	A virus transmitted by an arthropod; for example, viral meningitis transmitted by ticks and mosquitoes.
Arrhythmia	Irregular heart beat.
Arterial partial pressure of oxygen (PaO ₂)	Measures the pressure of oxygen dissolved in the blood and how well the oxygen is able to move from the airspace in the lungs and into the blood.
Arteries	Blood vessels that carry blood away from the heart; structural characteristics are designed to withstand relative high blood pressure and include thick muscular layers and elastic connective tissue.
Arterioles	Thin-walled, small-diameter resistance vessels that are branches of small-diameter arteries; a high proportion of their walls are composed of smooth muscle and are capable of rapidly changing their diameters to affect vascular resistance.
Arteriosclerosis	Condition in which arteries lose elasticity, becoming hard and narrow; occlusion or blockage can occur leading to infarction of surrounding area (e.g. myocardial infarction).

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Articular facet	A surface where two anatomical structures (usually bones) meet.
Articular process	The articular processes (zygapophyses) of a vertebra, two superior and two inferior, spring from the junctions of the pedicles and laminae. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The superior processes project upward from a lower vertebra, and their articular surfaces (coated with hyaline cartilage) are directed more or less backward. • The inferior processes project downward from a higher vertebra, and their articular surfaces are directed more or less forward and outward.
Arytenoid cartilages	Paired cartilages that articulate with the cricoid cartilage of the larynx. The posterior ends of the vocal cords attach to the arytenoids. Tension on the cords is altered by inward and outward rotation of the arytenoids. SEE larynx.
Asepsis	Prevention of contact with microorganisms.
Aseptic technique	A term applied to practices followed to prevent contamination by microorganisms.
Aspergillosis	Describes a number of infections caused by the fungus <i>Aspergillus</i> . In the lung, a "fungus ball".
Aspiration	Accidentally inhaling liquid into the windpipe and/or lungs.
Assist Control Ventilation (AC)	A mode of ventilation in which both spontaneous and mechanically triggered breaths are supported by the ventilator. The mandatory breath rate is the minimum amount of breaths the machine will deliver in a minute. The patient can trigger additional machine breaths above the set rate. AC breaths can be pressure, volume or flow cycled.
Assisted Ventilation	A general term. Assisted ventilation includes all forms of artificial ventilation.
Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI)	Not-for-profit global organization of multidisciplinary volunteers from industry, government agencies, institutions and clinicians addressing aspects of safety and effectiveness of medical instrumentation and related technologies. AAMI also establishes test methods and standards for healthcare apparel, sterilization wrap, sterilization parameters, biocompatibility determinations, etc.
Asthma	A condition of the lungs in which there is widespread narrowing of the airways, caused by the local release of spasmogens and vasoactive substances. Most cases represent a chronic form of allergy due to IgE antibodies. Irritant asthma is activated by an irritant such as a chemical or particle (e.g. powder, smoke).
ASTM International	Develops testing methods specifications, and performance standard on many consumer, healthcare, and engineering products. The development of these documents is conducted by volunteers from manufacturers, government agencies and consumer, clinician or other interested parties.
Ataxia	Loss of muscle coordination.
Atelectasis	No or under ventilation of any part of the lung or even a whole lung. Can usually be corrected with mechanical ventilation. Open suctioning is a significant risk factor for atelectasis.
Atherosclerosis	Narrowing and obstruction of circulatory vessels; most common cause of ischemia.
Atopy	A hereditary tendency to develop IgE-mediated states of hypersensitivity, such as hay fever.
Attenuation	The process of causing genetic changes to weaken a pathogen, rendering it nonpathogenic usually for use as a vaccine.
Auscultation	Process of listening for sounds within the body (e.g., breathing, heart beat, vascular passage, abdominal viscera).
Autoclave	A machine utilizing pressurized steam that enters a chamber to render items sterile. Most professional steam sterilizers also utilize a vacuum mechanisms to ultimately increase steam penetration early in the cycle and remove it rapidly at cycle completion.
Autoimmune disease	A disease in which the body produces antibodies against its own cells and tissues leading to injury from ones own immune system.
Autologous	From oneself.
Autonomic	Acting or occurring involuntarily (autonomic reflexes); relating to, affecting, or controlled by the autonomic nervous system (autonomic ganglia; autonomic dysfunction); having an effect upon tissue supplied by the autonomic nervous system resulting from internal stimuli; spontaneous.
Autonomic nervous system (ANS)	The part of the nervous system that is concerned with control of involuntary body functions, such as glandular secretions, heart beat, bowel function, bronchodilation, bronchoconstriction, vasodilation, and vasoconstriction. Also called the <i>visceral</i> nervous system, as opposed to the <i>somatic</i> nervous system. The <i>sympathetic</i> and <i>parasympathetic</i> nervous systems are subdivisions of the autonomic nervous system.
Avian Flu	Flu primarily caused by viruses that normally infect only birds (e.g. H5N1 virus). Transmission is from bird to bird, but occasionally transmitted from bird to human. Fear of global pandemic would occur if the virus were to become capable of spreading from person to person as the human immune system would not recognize the virus and would require time to mount a defense. Unfortunately, the virus may be very virulent and kill the individual before the defense is capable of mounting. Death rates could be extremely high.
Axial nerve	The axial nerve or circumflex nerve is a nerve that comes off the brachial plexus at the level of the axilla (armpit) and carries nerve fibers from C5 and C6. The nerve supplies the deltoid (shoulder muscle) teres minor (one of the rotator cuff muscles) and an elbow extensor muscle.
Axis	The second cervical vertebra (C2) of the spine; aka epistropheus.
Axons	A long slender projection of a nerve cell that conducts electrical impulses away from the neuron's cell body (soma).

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

B Lymphocyte	One of the white blood cells called a thymocyte responsible for the production of immunoglobulins (antibodies) of all types.
Bacillus (plural, bacilli)	One of three basic shapes of bacteria; rod-shaped bacterium.
Bacteremia	Bacteremia is the presence of viable bacteria in the circulating blood. This may or may not have any clinical significance; may or may not progress to a blood stream infection or an infection at a remote site.
Bacterial dose	Number of viable microorganisms/level of contamination.
Bacterial Filtration Efficiency (BFE)	ASTM F2101 (MIL 36954C), used to determine the bacterial aerosol filtration efficiency of various filtration materials. This test employs a ratio of the bacterial challenge counts to the number of bacteria that are trapped in the filter (do not make it through). The test procedure allows a reproducible bacterial challenge with an average droplet diameter of 3 microns (micrometers) to be delivered to test materials. This test method provides a standard procedure for comparison of filtration materials. Higher is better.
Bactericidal	An agent or process that kills bacteria.
Bactericidal agent	Agent that destroys bacteria.
Bacteriostatic	The property of a growth and reproduction inhibitor. A compound which inhibits the growth of microorganisms, but does not kill them. Once the organism is no longer in contact with the bacteriostat, it is potentially capable of resuming growth and reproduction and initiating infection.
Bacteriostatic agent	Agent that prevents growth and reproduction of bacteria.
Bagging	A term to describe manual ventilation of a patient using an Ambu bag (a.k.a. bag valved mask: BVM).
Balloon septostomy	Creation of a defect in a septum.
Basal metabolic rate (BMR)	The energy needed to maintain life when the body is at complete rest after a 12 hour fast.
Base of the lung	The inferior or diaphragmatic surface of the lung.
Baseline	Initial objective quantitative data collected and used for comparisons.
B-cells	Specialized white blood cells (lymphocytes) that produce the various antibodies.
Biacuplasty	Developed in order to treat individuals suffering from chronic discogenic back pain originating from annular fissures or contained disc herniations. This procedure is a minimally invasive percutaneous procedure which uses internally cooled radiofrequency probes to lesion the nociceptors in the intervertebral disc.
Bioactive	A substance or material that has an effect on living tissue.
Bioburden	The total number of viable (alive) microorganisms on an item.
Biofilm	A thin, slimy film of bacteria that adheres to a surface. A thin, gelatinous-like film secreted by bacterial cells providing them protection from many disinfectants, antibiotics and desiccation. Biofilms form in the bronchioles and alveolar sacs, commonly seen in cystic fibrosis patients who become infected by <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> . Also forms on catheters such as ET tubes, urinary catheters, blood stream catheters and on the surfaces of implanted devices.
Bioluminescence	Bioluminescence is the production and emission of light by a living organism. It is the energy released by a chemical reaction in the form of light, which is the product of a chemical reaction. Bioluminescence is a form of luminescence, or "cold light" emission; less than 20% of the light generates thermal radiation. It should not be confused with fluorescence, phosphorescence or refraction of light. Ninety percent of deep-sea marine life are estimated to produce bioluminescence in one form or another. We utilize this reaction to tag different bio-activities.
BiPAP	BiPAP stands for bilevel positive airway pressure. The BiPAP machines allows the air that is delivered through the mask to be set at one pressure for inhaling and another for exhaling. This makes BiPAP much easier for users to adapt to and also allows neuromuscular disease sufferers to use the device. These dual settings also allow people who use the device to get more air in and out of the lungs.
Bipolar	Relating to or having two poles or charges (bipolar encephalograph leads); relating to a device capable of using two polarizations, such as a transistor that uses positive and negative charge carriers; having an efferent and an afferent process; having two poles or opposite extremities: a bipolar neuron.
Bleach (i.e. Chlorine bleach, Sodium Hypochlorite, NaOCl)	Household bleach (5.25% or 6.00%–6.15% sodium hypochlorite depending on manufacturer) usually diluted in water at 1:10 or 1:100. Approximate dilutions are 1.5 cups of bleach in a gallon of water for a 1:10 dilution (~6,000 ppm) and 0.25 cup of bleach in a gallon of water for a 1:100 dilution (~600 ppm). Sodium hypochlorite products that make pesticidal claims, such as sanitization or disinfection, must be registered by EPA and be labeled with an EPA Registration Number. Open bottle of concentrated bleach good for 30 days. Diluted use-dilutions should be made fresh daily (24hrs). Active molecules bind to cellulose (such as rags or wipes made with cotton or paper components), significantly reducing efficacy.
Blenderized tube feeding	Tube feeding formula made from blenderized foods.
Bloodborne pathogen	Infectious virus, bacterium, or other disease-inducing microbe carried in the blood or other body fluids of infected individuals.

Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education

Bloodstream infection	A serious infection that occurs when bacteria from an infected or colonized site on the body invade the bloodstream. If bacteria continue to multiply without being stopped by antibiotics or the patient's immune system, there is a high risk of septic shock, a potentially life-threatening condition.
Body fluid	Medically, any fluid produced or excreted by the body which could contain infectious agents (bloodborne pathogens) including blood, semen, vaginal secretions, cerebral spinal fluid, synovial fluid, peritoneal fluid, amniotic fluid, saliva in dental procedures, any fluid contaminated with blood or where it is impossible to identify the fluid.
Body substance isolation	Isolation of all moist and potentially infectious body substances (blood, feces, urine, sputum, saliva, wound drainage, and other body fluids) from all patients, regardless of their presumed infection status, primarily through the use of gloves.
Boil	A boil, also called a furuncle, is a deep folliculitis, infection of the hair follicle. It is almost always caused by infection by the bacterium <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> , resulting in a painful swollen area on the skin caused by an accumulation of pus and dead tissue.[1] Individual boils clustered together are called carbuncles.
Bolus feeding administration	Method of feeding in which a large volume of formula is given in a short period of time, usually through a large syringe.
Brachial plexus	Location: lower part of neck to axilla. Constitutes the nerve supply for the upper extremities and several neck and shoulder muscles. Contains both somatic and autonomic elements.
Bradford Test Method	Colorimetric assay that measures total protein present in a sample. Results expressed as micrograms/gm of sample.
Bradycardia	A slow heartbeat characterized by a pulse rate below 60 beats per minute.
Bradypnea	Abnormally slow rate of breathing.
Bronchi	The large air tubes leading from the trachea to the lungs that convey air to and from the lungs. The trachea divides at the carina to form the right and left main bronchi. The bronchi have cartilage as part of their supporting wall structure.
Bronchial tree	An anatomic complex of the trachea and bronchi. The bronchi branch from the trachea.
Bronchiole	The small airways of the lung extending from the bronchi to the alveoli.
Bronchiole Alveolar Lavage (BAL)	BAL; a flexible catheter is placed in the suspect area of the lung. Saline is then released into the area and drawn back through the catheter to be used as a test sample to aid in diagnosing infection/pneumonia; may be performed by a camera (requires equipment, pulmonologist and technician) or blind (small, "mini" catheter) by a trained respiratory therapist or nurse.
Bronchoconstriction reflex	Protective reflex of the tracheo-bronchial tree that restricts entry of potentially damaging substances into the deeper and more vulnerable parts of the respiratory system. Subepithelial irritant receptors are stimulated by inhaled noxious gases, particulate matter, allergens, or pathogens. The motor response resulting from the stimulation results in rapid bronchospasm, glandular secretion, and histamine release. This can also occur during bronchoscopic procedures. SYN: irritant reflex.
Bronchopulmonary dysplasia (BPD)	Chronic pulmonary insufficiency arising from long term artificial ventilation.
Bronchoscopy	Bronchoscopy is a diagnostic procedure in which a tube with a tiny camera on the end is inserted through the nose or mouth into the lungs. The procedure provides a view of the airways of the lung and allows doctors to collect lung secretions or tissue specimens (biopsy).
Bronchospasm	A continuous and severe degree of bronchoconstriction by muscular spasm.
Bubbling	Gurgling sounds heard as air passing through moist secretions in the respiratory tract.
Buccal	Inside the cheek or mouth, or the gum beside the cheek.
Budding out	Enveloped viruses "bud" through the cell membrane of infected cells acquiring the membrane as the base of its envelope. Major viral matrix proteins hemagglutinin and neuraminidase poke through the envelope and carry it with them enveloped around the capsid (protein body). An infected cells will typically assemble thousands of viruses, the membrane will slowly be depleted and the cell will die.
Buffer	A combination of substances in aqueous solution that resists changes in hydrogen ion concentration when a strong acid or a strong base is added to the mixture.
Bulla (plural, bullae)	A fluid filled blister more than 5mm in diameter with thin walls. A bulla on the skin is a blister; a bulla within the tissues is more often referred to as a bleb (e.g. on the pleura - the membrane covering the lung).
Burette	A graduated glass tube with a small aperture and stopcock for delivering measured quantities of liquid or for measuring the liquid or gas received or discharged.
C. difficile strains	Differ from each other by identifiable characteristics. For example, the new 027 strain produces a higher volume of toxins, is more virulent and generates more spores than older <i>C. difficile</i> strains. Strains 017 and 078, which appeared near the same time as 027 are more virulent than older strains, but not at the extreme level experienced with 027.
Cachexia	A general weight loss and wasting usually due to a chronic disease or emotional disturbance.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Calcium Carbonate	A common mold-release agent that facilitates the release of gloves from their hand shaped production molds (formers). The calcium carbonate may or may not be removed. If left on the glove, there may be interferences with laboratory tests and potentially cause patient and wearer related problems (e.g. skin irritation, granulomas)
Caloric density	The property expressed by the amount of calories per volume of formula. e.g. 1 calorie/milliliter of formula.
Campylobacteriosis	Diarrheal disease caused by campylobacter bacteria, acquired by the ingestion of contaminated meats, water, or unpasteurized milk.
Candida albicans	A common yeast-like fungus normally present in the mucous membranes of the mouth, intestinal tract, and vagina of healthy people; under certain circumstances, may cause superficial infections of the skin, mouth, or vagina. It is also an opportunistic pathogen in frank infections. Common causes of infection: recent antibiotic therapy, cytotoxic therapy, corticosteroid therapy, radiation therapy to the head and neck or other immunosuppressive disorders such as HIV. In the mouth, referred to as thrush.
Candidiasis	A yeast infection caused by <i>Candida albicans</i> , an opportunistic yeast that is part of the resident flora of the mouth and gastrointestinal tract.
Cannula	A small, flexible tube, usually containing a trocar at one end, that is inserted into a bodily cavity, duct, or vessel to drain fluid or administer a substance such as a medication.
Cannulate	The insertion of a catheter into a body cavity, duct or vessel.
Cap	Placed on top of the access port to protect it. Caps are NOT substitutions for rigorous disinfection of the hub or connector prior to access. Some institutions have implemented cap replacement policies to reduce port contamination.
Capsule (bacterial)	A layer composed of glycocalyx located outside the bacterial cell wall; serves different functions, including protecting cell against the environment, providing ability for the cell to move on solid surfaces, or allowing the bacteria to tenaciously attach to tissue, teeth, catheter surfaces, implants, etc., so they are not flushed away by body secretions.
Carbuncle	Deep-seated pyogenic (producing pus) infection of several contiguous hair follicles, with formation of connecting sebaceous pockets-usually containing <i>Staphylococcus</i> .
Cardiac tamponade	Compression on the heart from fluids building up in the pericardium (sac around the heart).
Cardioplegic solution	A protective solution, usually chilled, containing potassium and dextrose, that significantly reduces myocardial injury during the arrest and reperfusion phases of cardiac surgery. It does so by inducing a rapid and complete diastolic arrest, decreasing myocardial energy requirements, reducing ischemic damage during the arrest phase, and minimizing reperfusion injury once coronary blood flow is restored. Chilling the solution with contaminated ice has resulted in several infections.
Carina	The point at the lower end of the trachea separating the openings into the right and left lung. If touched by instruments, elicits reflexive vagal nerve responses.
C-Arm	Another name for an X-ray image intensifier (XRII), refers to a special image intensifier device used in medical imaging increasingly used during interventional procedures.
Carrier	A human who carries a pathogen but is asymptomatic.
Casein	The principal protein of cow's milk; an intact protein polymer often found in tube feeding formulas.
Caseous necrosis	Cheese-like. Caseous necrosis describes a form of biological tissue death, caseous meaning it has a cheese-like appearance. The dead tissue appears as a soft and white proteinaceous dead cell mass.
Catabolism	A destructive process where a complex substance (tissue) is metabolically converted by living cells into smaller compounds. The opposite of anabolism.
Catheter	A small, thin tube. May refer to a tube used during a cardiac catheterization procedure to inject dye, obtain blood samples, and measure pressures inside the heart. Catheter placed in a vein provides a pathway for giving drugs, nutrients, fluids, or blood products. Samples of blood can also be withdrawn through the catheter. May also refer to a tube used to help drain the bladder (often referred to as a Foley catheter).
Catheter Connectors	These devices allow access to a catheter.
Catheter Cuff	A balloon that is connected to a catheter. After the catheter is positioned, the balloon is inflated to secure the position of the catheter or widen (dilate) areas that are constricted (stenosis) or where deposits narrow (atherosclerosis).
Catheter Securement Devices	Healthcare workers have customarily used tape or sutures to secure medical catheters. Typically, they use sutures for central venous catheters, arterial catheters, endotracheal tubes and chest tubes. More recently engineered solutions such as improved adhesive products and securement devices have been introduced to reduce or eliminate the need for sutures, reduce needlestick risk for staff, improving device position stability and reducing patient risk of infection.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Catheter-related Blood Stream Infection (CRBSI)	Bloodstream infection in which the CVC is identified as the source of infection based on laboratory findings from cultures isolated from the catheter itself.
Cauda equina	The filum terminale plus the roots of the spinal nerves below the first lumbar nerve. In the average adult human, the spinal cord itself terminates at about the second lumbar vertebra.
Caudad (caudal)	Toward, or nearer to, the tail or coccyx.
Celiac plexus	Nerve Location: behind stomach, in front of aorta at the level of the origin of the celiac artery. Its branches are distributed to other abdominal plexuses that supply various organs. Contains sympathetic elements.
Cell-mediated immunity (CMI)	A type of immunity that utilizes white blood cells instead of antibodies or complement. Resistance to TB elicits a cell-mediated immunological response.
Cellulase	Enzymes that break down carbohydrates.
Cellulitis	Cellulitis is a diffuse inflammation of connective tissue with severe inflammation of dermal and subcutaneous layers of the skin. Cellulitis can be caused by normal skin flora or by exogenous bacteria, and often occurs where the skin has previously been broken: cracks in the skin, cuts, blisters, burns, insect bites, surgical wounds, intravenous drug injection or sites of intravenous catheter insertion. (Note: Not to be confused with cellulite - which is skin dimpling or small nodules not associated with infection)
Cellulose	Part of the cell wall in most plants. Cotton and paper are cellulose-based products. Lint from cellulose-based products is bio-reactive and causes irritation, inflammation, granulomas, adhesions, and a locally reduced resistance to infection.
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)	A federal agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) that administers the Medicare program and works in partnership with state governments to administer Medicaid, the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), and health insurance portability standards. As such, controls many healthcare reimbursement policies.
Central Line (CL)	A vascular infusion device that terminates at or close to the heart or one of the great vessels. Here, the vessels are thick and tough and the large volume of blood dilutes infusions rapidly. An umbilical artery or vein catheter is considered a central line for neonates. Note: Neither the location of the insertion site nor the type of device may be used solely to determine whether the line qualifies as a "central" line. Only if the location of the tip of the line meets the criteria above does the device qualify as a central line. Central lines can be used for taking measurements, infusing chemotherapeutic (toxic) drugs, total parenteral solutions - often used for easy access for chronic treatments.
Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infection (CLABSI)	Primary bloodstream infection (BSI) occurring when a central line (including umbilical catheter) was in place within 48 hours before onset.
Central nervous system (CNS)	One of the two main divisions of the nervous system, consisting of the brain and the spinal cord. The CNS processes information to and from the peripheral nervous system and is the main network of coordination and control for the entire body. The brain controls many functions and sensations, such as sleep, sexual activity, muscular movement, hunger, thirst, memory, and emotions. The spinal cord extends various types of nerve fibers from the brain and acts as a switching and relay terminal for the peripheral nervous system.
Central venous catheter (CVC)	CVC is a small biocompatible tube or vascular access device made of soft flexible material inserted into a large vein of the peripheral vascular system and tip of the catheter advanced into the superior vena cava (SVC). The catheter insertion site may be an upper extremity, jugular vein or subclavian vein. Radiographic studies are necessary to confirm CVC placement. Subclavian or axillary tip placement: not considered as a CVC. SVC placement is required for administration of TPN and continues infusion of volume, toxic chemotherapy agents. See also Central Line.
Cephalad or Cephalic	Toward, or nearer to, the head.
Cerebrospinal fluid	Aqueous fluid surrounding the brain and spinal cord, and filling the four ventricles of the brain. It provides a cushion around the brain and spinal cord, and is contained within the subarachnoid space.
Certificate of Medical Necessity (CMN)	A form developed by the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) that a physician must complete in order to receive reimbursement for various procedures including Nutrition Support Services from Medicare.
Cervical	Pertaining to the neck or cervix.
Cervical plexus	Location: neck. Supplies the skin and muscles of the head, neck, and upper parts of the shoulders. Connects with some cranial nerves and supplies the diaphragm.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Chassaignac tubercle	Also known as tuberculum caroticum, the carotid tubercle; is the name given to the anterior tubercle of the transverse process of the sixth cervical vertebra against which the carotid artery may be compressed by the finger. By massaging the carotid against the tubercle, supraventricular tachycardia symptoms can be relieved. The Chassaignac tubercle is used as a landmark by anesthesiologists for local anesthesia of the brachial plexus and the cervical plexus using the supraclavicular approach.
Chelating agents	In instrument processing, chelating agents are used to bind with hard water minerals to prevent them from depositing onto the device and to prevent the possible adverse reactions with the cleaning solutions. Chelating is also used to treat blood. This can be done as a treatment to precipitate unwanted accumulation of specific minerals, in sample containers when blood is collected for various diagnostic assays or to prevent clotting.
Chemotaxis	Refers to the attraction of phagocytes (white blood cells) to a site they are needed. The attraction is created by chemical stimuli secreted from injured tissue cells and by microbial products. The concentration of the chemicals form a gradient which is most concentrated at the source of origin. During chemotactic movement, the white cells hone into the highest concentration and therefore to the offending pathogen, object or injury.
Chemotherapy	Treatment of infections or other diseases (e.g. various cancers) with chemical agents; often increases development of mucositis.
Cheyne-Stokes breathing	A pattern of breathing characterized by a period of apnea lasting 10 to 60 seconds, followed by a period of increasing depth and rate of breathing, followed by a period of decreasing depth and frequency until another period of apnea develops. Cheyne-Stokes breathing is sometimes associated with central nervous system depressant drug overdoses, or reduced cerebral blood flow.
Chlorhexidine gluconate antiseptic (CHG)	A skin preparation that kills bacteria by disrupting its cell membrane and precipitating the cell contents. CHG has a persistent effect and has cumulative biocidal action. Keep out of ears and eyes. The addition of ethyl alcohol (50-70%) or isopropyl alcohol (70-95%) speeds the bacterial kill effect. It kills both gram-positive and gram-negative microbes, although it is less effective with some gram-negative microbes. It is scored as fair against yeasts and fungi, and is effective against enveloped viruses, but not non-enveloped viruses. It does not kill spores. It is both bactericidal and bacteriostatic depending on concentration, microorganism and environment. If there is a contraindication to chlorhexidine, tincture of iodine, an iodophor, or 70% alcohol can be used as alternatives
Chlorhexidine Gluconate oral rinse (CHG)	Chlorhexidine, a chemical antiseptic at 0.12% is recommended by CDC as oral rinse for perioperative period on adult patients who undergo cardiac surgery.
Chloride shift	The shift of chloride ions from the plasma into the red blood cells upon the addition of carbon dioxide from the tissues, and the reverse movement when carbon dioxide is released in the lungs. It is a mechanism for maintaining constant pH of the blood. SYN: anion shift.
Chronic alveolar hyperventilation	A condition of hyperventilation lasting for more than 24 hours. The condition results in respiratory alkalosis. Renal (kidney) compensation includes the excretion of additional bicarbonate from the body.
Chronic Pain	Having sudden or slow onset of any intensity pain from mild to severe, being constant or recurring without an anticipated or predictable end and a duration of greater than 6 months.
Chronic ventilatory failure	A condition resulting from prolonged hypoventilation (for more than 24 hours); the condition results in respiratory acidosis and generally involves renal compensation as the kidneys attempt to reabsorb additional bicarbonate from the glomerular filtrate.
Chyme	Waste products that leave the stomach through the small intestine and then pass through the ileocecal valve.
-cidal	The suffix used to designate a killing treatment. The word's prefix indicates the type of organism affected, such as bactericidal or fungicidal.

Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education

Cilia	Microscopic hair-like extensions that line the respiratory tract and move in a synchronous motion to move secretions with entrapped inhaled dust, debris, and microbes forward into the pharynx to be expelled by the host through sneezing, coughing, or swallowing. For example, there are approximately 200 cilia per cell which beat at the rate of 1,000 to 1,500 times a minute propelling mucus, microorganisms and debris up and out of the airways. Influenza viruses often destroy cilia leaving gaps in the muco-cilliary "conveyor belt" hindering defense against further infections (e.g. secondary bacterial pneumonia). SEE mucocilliary escalator, oropharynx.
Cirrhosis	Scarring of healthy tissue preventing the flow of blood through the liver due to disease, toxin or infection.
Cleaning	Removal of visible soil, blood, protein substances, microorganisms and other debris from the surfaces that prepares the items for safe handling and/or further decontamination or disinfection. This can be confusing as also used to describe the general activity of processing a room by ES which involves both the above defined cleaning and disinfection activities.
Clinical indicator	An instrument that measures a quantifiable aspect (e.g. to guide professionals in monitoring and evaluating nutritional care quality and/or appropriateness); high blood glucose suggests diabetes or hyperglycemic episode, etc.
Clinical Pulmonary Infection Score (CPIS)	A common survey of physical parameters which may indicate increasing risk of ventilator-associated pneumonia (VAP).
Closed system	Digestive: a system not open to the environment; a tube-feeding product where the container is pre-filled with formula so there is no break in the system, potentially giving less cause for bacterial contamination. Respiratory: closed circuit keeps positive pressure; closed suction means tracheal suction system is incorporated into the breathing circuit and does not require disconnection of the breathing circuit thus maintaining respiratory physiology ratios, maintaining PEEP and reducing microbial transmission..
Closed wound drainage system	A drain connected directly from the wound or from an incision near the wound to a suction device; it promotes healing by allowing excess serosanguineous fluid and purulent material to drain.
<i>Clostridium difficile</i>	An anaerobic, gram positive, rod shaped bacterium that produces endospores (spores). It is the most serious cause of antibiotic-associated diarrhea (AAD) often resulting from the eradication of the normal intestinal bacteria by antibiotics. New strains such as 027 have greatly increased the frequency and severity of <i>C. difficile</i> infections.
Cluster	Events such as infections that occur closely together in a population; suggests possible outbreak.
Coccioid	One of three basic shapes of bacteria. Coccioid or coccus refers to spherical shape. Other bacterial shapes are bacillary-rod shaped, cuneiform (comma-like), spiral, or pleomorphic (multishapes - often forms of club-shaped).
Coccyx	The small bone at the end of the vertebral column in humans; tail bone. SEE also vertebra.
Cohort	A group of patients that meet the defined criteria – for example, a group of patients with influenza.
Cohorting	Grouping of patients/staff together who have had exposure to the same infection or who have the same infection and segregating from those who have not.
Colectomy	Excision of part or all of the colon (large intestine).
Colitis	An acute or chronic inflammation of the large intestine (the colon). There are many forms of colitis, including ulcerative, Crohn's, infectious, pseudomembranous, and spastic. When inflammation becomes severe, cells are destroyed in the intestinal wall forming ulcers as exposure to the toxin or inflammatory byproducts continues. The ulcers bleed, and become infected often producing pus. Ulcerative colitis rarely affects the small intestine except for the lower section.
Collagen	The principal protein in connective tissue. This fibrous, structural protein molecule provides strength and elasticity to tissue, skin, cartilage, ligaments, tendons and bones. Collagen deposition after a tissue is damaged is essential for optimal and timely healing. Low oxygen saturation and hypothermia each reduce collagen deposition.
Colonization	The presence of a new microorganisms that has gained access to the body, multiplied and has not yet caused an active infection or been eliminated by the immune system.
Colonized	In reference to bacteria, becoming established and multiplying in a particular host site, such as part of the body or a wound without causing an infection at that time.
Colony	A mass of microbes that has grown from a single cell in a laboratory culture, such as a Petri dish. After "plating out" a specimen, the individual colonies permit quantification of the bacteria (assume one colony initiated by one bacterium) and to obtain pure samples of bacteria (isolate) from individual colonies for identification.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Colostomy	A surgical opening from the colon through the abdomen into the large or small intestines, forming a stoma for the discharge of stool (fecal material). In some cases, the procedure may be reversible.
Common Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes	Codes used by pain practitioners for reimbursement purposes.
Communicable disease	Disease that can be transmitted from person to person.
Complement	A group of 25 to 30 enzymatic serum proteins found in blood plasma that make up the "complement system", part of the human non-cellular immune response.
Compliance (lung)	The amount of pressure required to expand the lung. Mathematically, it is volume change per pressure change. A more compliant lung is easier to fill with air than a low compliant lung.
Computerized axial tomography (CAT)	Tomography in which computer analysis of a series of cross-sectional scans made along a single axis of a bodily structure or tissue is used to construct a three-dimensional image of that structure. The technique is used in diagnostic studies of internal bodily structures, as in the detection of tumors or brain aneurysms.
Computerized Axial Tomography (CAT) scan	Computerized Axial Tomography scan. Also known as CT scan, combines a series of X-ray views taken from many different angles to produce cross-sectional images of the bones and soft tissues inside the body.
Concave	Hollowed or rounded inward like the inside of a bowl or the inner surface of a sphere.
Condyle	An articular prominence of a bone -- used chiefly of such as occur in pairs resembling a pair of knuckles (as those of the occipital bone for articulation with the atlas, those at the distal end of the humerus and femur, and those of the lower jaw).
Conscious sedation	A minimal form of anesthesia in which a patient is conscious, but has an increased pain threshold during surgery; may be used to help isolate the cause of a problem.
Contact precautions	Safeguards designed to reduce the transmission of infectious agents known to be spread by direct or indirect contact. Direct contact may be from one person to another by touch. Indirect contact refers to touching an object or surface which is then handled by another who "picks up" the infectious agent. MRSA, VRE, <i>C. difficile</i> are examples of the many organisms that are transmitted by contact transfer.
Contact sensitizer	A chemical agent used in many products and solutions that may elicit a delayed type allergic reaction (Type IV) after repeated contact with the susceptible individual.
Contact Time	In reference to disinfection: Term used to describe the amount of time a disinfectant should remain on a hard surface to ensure effectiveness. Thereafter it may be rinsed or wiped off if desired. Note, must remain wet/moist for the label stated contact time to kill the microorganisms specified.
Contact urticaria	A localized and transient wheal-and-flare response (hives) elicited from minutes to an hour after contact with an allergen to which the individual has become sensitized; a Type I hypersensitivity response.
Contaminated	A condition of being soiled, stained, touched or otherwise exposed to agents that may be harmful (infectious diseases, radioactive substances, etc.); also refers to the exposure of an item or area to something that makes it unsafe for its intended use (e.g., particles during computer circuit, production).
Contaminated	State of having actual or potential contact with microorganisms. As used in health care, the term generally refers to the presence of microorganisms that could produce disease or infection.
Continuous feeding administration	Feeding administration method where formula is delivered in flow volumes over 24 hours, usually using an enteral feeding pump.
Continuous Mechanical Ventilation (CMV)	A mode of ventilation either assisted or controlled where all breaths are delivered by a mechanical breathing device.
Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP)	A mode of ventilation, in which the patient is breathing spontaneously. The CPAP device (which may or may not be a ventilator) administers a continuous supra-atmospheric pressure to the airway. The patient breathes spontaneously above this pressure allowing better oxygenation than spontaneous breathing alone. Also referred to as non-invasive breathing assist.
Contralateral	Relating to the opposite side.
Contrast	Otherwise known as "x-ray dye". The term dye is really not appropriate as it is colorless and not a true dye. Contrast media is a better term. Contrast or contrast media is used in a number of imaging studies for a variety of reasons and is visible because it blocks x- rays, giving shape to otherwise void areas.
Conus Medullaris	Is the terminal end, a tapering lower part, of the spinal cord at the level or the first lumbar segment.
Convex	Having a surface or boundary that is curved or rounded like the exterior of a sphere or circle.
Corneocytes	The epidermis is a thin outer layer of the skin (stratum corneum) made up of cells called corneocytes, which make up 70% of the volume. They are packed with fibrous protein called keratin.

Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education

Coronavirus	A group of viruses responsible for approximately 15%-20% of all common colds. A strain is also responsible for SARS.
Coulter counter	An electronic cell counter that automatically counts the number of cells in a known volume of fluid.
Craniad	Toward the head or anterior end.
Crisis	The turning point of a disease for better or worse; especially a sudden change, usually for the better, in the course of an acute disease. Often refers to a sudden drop in temperature, after a severe high temperature period.
Critical devices	Part of the Spaulding classification system identifying devices that require sterilization.
Critical zone	Area of the protective apparel or surgical drape where direct contact with blood or other body fluid and other potentially infectious materials (OPIM) is likely to occur.
Culture	A means of growing microorganisms.
Culture media	Medium that contains nutrients for the growth or maintenance of microorganisms. There are many types of culture media which contain different nutrients depending on the needs of the organism to be grown or the specific traits sought by the laboratory for identification/isolation. Media may be in either solid or liquid form.
Cupula	Dome (apex) of the lung.
CVC	Central venous catheter, also known as a Central Line (CL). SEE Central Line
Cyanosis	Bluish tinge of skin that usually indicates poor oxygenation.
Cyclic feeding administration	Feeding administration method where formula is delivered continuously but over only a specified amount of time such as 10-18 hours.
Cyclooxygenase (COX)	Cyclooxygenase (COX) is an enzyme that produces prostaglandins within the body's cells. There are two COX enzymes, COX-1 and COX-2. Both enzymes produce prostaglandins that promote inflammation, pain, and fever. However, only COX-1 produces prostaglandins that support platelets and protect the stomach.
Cytokine storm	An overreaction of the immune cells and cytokines (chemicals that elicit white cell activities) that can severely damage tissues including the lungs, resulting in mild to severe consequences. It is thought that this is one of the primary causes of death of the 1918-1919 pandemic influenza that killed over 40 million individuals globally. The body produced a cytokine storm in the lungs destroying lung tissue and causing massive hemorrhage while attempting to stop progression of the viral infection.
Cytoplasm	The fluid type substance that composes the majority of a cell outside of the nucleus and contains the organelles.
Cytotoxic	Destructive to or preventing the function of cells.
Cytotoxic drugs	Drugs that injure cells. For example, chemotherapeutic drugs damage or kill cancer cells. However, they can also damage healthy normal cells if in high enough concentrations or directed towards healthy tissues (e.g. extravasation)
Cytotropic	Having an affinity for cells. IgE antibodies are cytotropic for mast cells.
Dead Space (lungs)	That part of the respiratory system which does not take part in gas exchange.
Dead Space (respiratory circuit)	The length of tubing between the breathing circuit and the endotracheal tube.
Dead space (surgical)	Space in the tissue due to improper closure. Dead space allows fluid and air to collect, increasing the risk of an infection.
Dead space to tidal volume ratio (VD/VT)	A measure of the amount of minute ventilation wasted ventilating the conducting zone of the lung.
Debridement	Removal of necrotic and foreign material for a wound.
Decontamination	The use of physical or chemical means to remove, inactivate or destroy pathogens on a surface or item to the point that they are no longer capable of spreading the microorganism to others.
Decontamination	According to OSHA, "the use of physical or chemical means to remove, inactivate, or destroy blood borne pathogens on a surface or item to the point where they are no longer capable of transmitting infectious particles and the surface or item is rendered safe for handling, use, or disposal" [29 CFR 1910.1030]. In health-care facilities, the term refers to all pathogenic organisms.
Decubitus	The posture of the patient when lying down.
Deep Incisional SSI	Deep Incisional surgical site infections (SSI) are those in which the infection involves the deep soft tissues, below the fascia or peritoneal layer. This is the most severe and difficult to treat SSI.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Degenerative Disc Disease (DDD)	When the water and protein content of the body's cartilage changes resulting in weaker, more fragile and thin cartilage. Because both the discs and the joints that stack the vertebrae (facet joints) are partly composed of cartilage, these areas are subject to wear and tear over time (degenerative changes). The gradual deterioration of the disc between the vertebrae is referred to as Degenerative Disc Disease.
Dehiscence	Partial or total rupturing of a sutured wound.
Delayed hypersensitivity (DTH)	Abnormal immune response that occurs after 24 hours; includes granulomas and adhesions as well as tissue, skin graft, implant and transplant rejections. On the skin, delayed hypersensitivity causes the symptoms of allergic contact dermatitis. SYN: Type IV hypersensitivity, chemical allergy, implant rejection.
Dendrites	Neuron processes that conduct electrical currents toward the cell body (soma).
Denervate	To deprive (an organ or body part) of a nerve supply, as by surgically removing or cutting a nerve or by blocking a nerve connection with drugs.
Dens	A tooth-like process that projects from the anterior end of the centrum of the axis in the spinal column, serves as a pivot on which the atlas rotates, and is morphologically the centrum of the atlas though detached from that vertebra and more or less perfectly united with the next one behind -- called also odontoid process.
Derecruitment	A term applied to the collapse of individual alveoli sacs such that they are not able to exchange gases. After collapse, reopening is difficult. Repeated episodes can cause injury and/or sustained regional collapse. Keeping the circuit closed during suctioning and other activities, delivers constant pressure (PEEP) to maintain alveolar patency optimizing oxygen saturation levels, minimizing trauma and preventing atelectasis.
Dermatitis	A general term referring to any inflammation of the skin; may be caused by an irritation or Type IV, delayed type hypersensitivity.
Dermatome	A segmental area of skin and subcutaneous tissue innervated by branches of a specific spinal nerve. For example, the area of skin supplied with afferent nerve fibers by a single posterior spinal root.
Dermatotomy	A skin incision.
Dermis	The dermis contains two types of fibers: elastin, which gives skin its elasticity, and collagen, which provides strength; it is the second layer of the skin located underneath the epidermis. The dermis also contains blood and lymph vessels, hair follicles, sweat glands, and the sebaceous glands, which produce oil.
Desaturation	A general term describing loss of or insufficient amount of oxygen combined with the arterial hemoglobin.
Desiccation	The process of removing water.
Detergent	A cleansing substance which loosens debris and holds it in suspension so it can be easily rinsed away.
Device days	The total number of days that a specific type of device is used in a population within a specific time frame. Device days are used as a denominator in surveillance. (numerator/denominator)
Diagnosis Related Groups (DRG)	The capitated rate allowed by insurance carriers according to patient diagnosis.
Diagnosis-related group (DRG)	Diagnosis-related group specifically identified for reimbursement. There are approximately 500 groups each roughly categorized to procedures having similar hospital resource requirements; developed for Medicare payment system.
Diaphragm	The dome-shaped skeletal muscle separating the abdomen from the thoracic cavity. It contracts with each inspiration, flattening out downward permitting the bases of the lungs to descend. It relaxes with each expiration, elevating itself and restoring the inverted basin shape.
Diathermy	The production of heat in body tissues for therapeutic purposes by non-damaging high-frequency currents.
Differential Pressure (Delta P or ΔP)	Determines the air exchange differential of porous materials (Reference ASTM F2100, ISO 16603, ISO 16604, Military spec MIL36954C, ASTM F2101). This technique employs a water manometer differential upstream and downstream of the test material at a constant flow rate. For masks and respirators, the higher the delta P, the more difficult it is to breath through. Lower is better IF the BFE and fluid resistance is not compromised.
Differential white blood cell count	The percentage of each type of white blood cell present in a blood sample.
Diffusing capacity of the lung for carbon monoxide (DLCO)	A measure of the ability of the lung to diffuse gases, using carbon monoxide (CO) as a test gas, and using Fick's law for the calculations. (Carbon monoxide is used because of its remarkable ease of diffusion through the alveolar-capillary membrane and its extremely slow rate of equilibration along the pulmonary capillary.)
Diffusion-limited gas exchange	Gas transfer at the alveolar-capillary membrane that is determined by the diffusing capacity, or conductance properties of the membrane itself, rather than the delivery of pulmonary blood to the membrane.
Diffusivity	The rate of diffusion of a gas through a membrane along a partial pressure gradient.

Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education

Dilator	An instrument designed for enlarging a hollow structure or opening; a muscle that pulls open an orifice; a substance that causes dilation or enlargement of opening or the lumen of a hollow structure.
Direct transmission	Is the direct physical transfer of infectious microorganisms between an infected or colonized person and a susceptible host.
Discography	The process of making a radiograph of an intervertebral disk after injection of a radiopaque substance.
Disease	A departure from health or normal function; a dis-ease (e.g. a broken bone, chicken pox, a sprained ankle).
Disinfection	A process that eliminates many microorganisms from inanimate surfaces.
Disinfection Levels	Low: Process capable of killing most bacteria, some viruses, and some fungi, but not <i>Tuberculosis bacilli</i> (Mycobacterium) or bacterial spores. Intermediate: Process capable of killing <i>Tuberculosis bacilli</i> , vegetative bacteria (bacteria that are not in their spore state), most viruses, and most fungi, but not necessarily bacterial spores. High: Process capable of killing all microorganisms with the exception of high numbers of bacterial spores and prions.
Disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC)	Lots of clots resulting from the overstimulation of clotting and anticlotting processes by an injury, infection, endotoxin or other disease.
Diverticulum	Any sac or pouch formed by herniation of the wall of a tubular organ or part, especially the intestines.
Diving reflex	Apnea and bradycardia caused by stimulation of nasal or facial receptors with cold water. Optimizes respiration which allows mammals to stay underwater for a long time. It is exhibited strongly in aquatic mammals (seals, otters, dolphins, etc.), but exists in a weaker version in other mammals, including humans. Slowing the heart rate and diverts blood flow to the brain, heart, and lungs; serving to conserve oxygen until breathing resumes and to delay potential brain damage.
DLCOb	Single-breath diffusion of carbon monoxide across the lung.
D-Max	The maximum radiation dose that can be delivered to a product during sterilization before unacceptable damage is incurred.
D-Min	The minimal radiation dose required to sterilize the product to the desired sterility assurance level (SAL).
DNAse	An enzyme that breaks down DNA. Present on standard gloves, additional processing is required for its removal; important for molecular research labs.
Dorsal	Of or pertaining to a position toward the back, or, in humans, posterior surface of the body.
Dorsal root ganglion	A ganglion on the dorsal root of each spinal nerve that is one of a series of ganglia containing cell bodies of sensory neurons – also called spinal ganglion.
Dosimeter	A device that measures the dose of radiation absorbed.
Droplet precautions	Safeguards to reduce the risk of droplet transmission of infectious agents suspended in droplets larger than 5 microns. Designed to protect the mucosal surfaces of the mouth, respiratory tract and eyes. Droplets are generated from source persons by speaking, coughing and sneezing as well as several procedures (e.g. tracheal suctioning and bronchoscopy). It is estimated that droplets this size fall out of the air at a distance of 3-6 feet from the source patient. Thus, a mask should be worn when a provider will be that close to the patient.
Drug-nutrient interaction	An event that occurs when a drug effect is altered by ingested nutrients or when a medication alters nutrient availability.
Dumping syndrome	Complex reaction due to a rapid emptying of gastric contents that brings about one or more episodes of diarrhea.
Duodenum	The first or proximal portion of the small intestine, extending from the pylorus to the jejunum.
Dura mater	A tough, fibrinous membrane forming the outer covering of the CNS.
Dynamic lung compliance (C _{dyn})	A measurement of how readily a lung region fills during a period of gas flow.
Dysesthesia	An unpleasant abnormal sensation which is usually touch, evoked by normal stimuli.
Dysphagia	Physiological swallowing difficulty that can lead to severe nutritional compromise without treatment.
Dyspnea	Difficulty breathing; shortness of breath.
Eczema	A superficial inflammation process involving primarily the epidermis, marked early by redness, itching, minute papules and vesicles, weeping, oozing, and crusting; and later by scaling, lichenification, and often pigmentation.
Edema	An accumulation of an excessive amount of watery fluid in cells, tissues or serous cavities; causes a puffy swelling.
Effort-dependent flowrate	That part of the flow-volume loop determined by the degree of respiratory effort expended.
Effort-independent flowrate	That part of the flow-volume loop not determined by the degree of respiratory effort expended.
Elastance	The tendency of a material to return to its original form after having been deformed; the character or quality of such a material. Elastance is the reciprocal of compliance. SEE compliance.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Elastic forces	Forces that promote collapse of the alveoli and lung, thus contributing to instability. Elastic forces are due to the elastic connective tissue of the lung interstitium and to surface tension caused by the fluid lining the alveoli; forces the air out.
Elastic resistance	Impedance produced by the static elastic recoil of the lung and thorax (e.g., elasticity of the lung interstitium, surface tension effects of alveolar fluid, elasticity of the chest wall, disease such as emphysema).
Electrode	A solid electric conductor through which an electric current enters or leaves an electrolytic cell or other medium; used to establish electrical contact with a nonmetallic part of a circuit.
Electrolytes	Salts that dissociate into ions.
Elemental (digestion)	Tube feeding formula type that is made up of basic nutrient units such as amino acids, short or medium chain triglycerides, and monosaccharides. This type of formula is considered easier to digest and absorb than polymeric formulas.
ELISA (enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay)	An immunological assay technique making use of an enzyme bonded to a particular antibody or antigen. Used to detect the presence of specific substances (e.g., enzymes, viruses, antibodies, bacteria, antigens, allergens).
Elongation	Measurement in percent of the length a glove or any other material can be stretched before it breaks.
Emboli	Clots moved from their place of origin, causing circulatory obstruction elsewhere; may lodge in vessels that supply vital organs. May also be an air emboli – a bubble. Examples of emboli are a detached blood clots, clump of bacterial biofilm, and foreign material such aslant, glove powder and air.
Embolization	The artificial or natural formation or development of an embolus.
Embolus (plural is emboli)	A plug composed of a detached thrombus or discrete mass of something like bacteria, an air bubble, glob of fat, lint or other foreign body that occludes a vessel, catheter, etc.
Emetic	A substance that causes vomiting.
Emphysema	Pulmonary condition characterized by over-inflation and stiffening and destruction of the alveolar walls. On exhalation, a large part of the used gas is still trapped in the stiff alveoli and fresh gasses are not in sufficient volume. There is thus a lingering difficulty of breathing.
Empiric	Treatment by remedies that experience has proved to be useful.
Empyema	An accumulation of pus in a body cavity; usually in the pleural cavity, surrounding a lung as a result of a bacterial infection such as tuberculosis; the pus is often surgically drained.
End plates	The area of synaptic contact between a motor nerve and a muscle fiber.
Endemic	A disease that is constantly present in a region, community, or population.
Endocardial lesion	Area of tissue damage of the heart.
Endogenous	Something from within ones self. For example Infections caused by the patient's own flora.
Endogenous risk factors for infection	Risk factors derived from the patient either as a source of microbial contamination (e.g. bacteria from the skin, nose, mouth, intestines, remote infections) or reduced resistance to infection (e.g. diabetes, malnutrition, smoking, alcohol usage, obesity, heart insufficiencies, HIV).
Endospore	Formed by bacteria as a means of surviving harsh environmental conditions; it represents the bacteria in "resting" stage until conditions for growth are favorable. Spores are very hard to kill (e.g., not killed by alcohol). <i>C. difficile</i> is a spore former.
Endothelium	The inner lining of a blood vessel.
Endotoxic Shock	Physiologic response resulting from an influx of lipopolysaccharides from gram negative bacteria. There is a sudden outflow of fluid from the blood vessels resulting in blood pressure drop (hypotension), tachycardia and fever all leading to multiple organ failure (MOF).
Endotoxin	Pyrogenic lipopolysaccharides from the cell wall of dead, primarily gram negative, bacteria capable of causing multiple local and systemic pathological sequela, including fever, complement activation, cell lysis, tissue inflammation, diarrhea, micro-thrombi formation, disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC) and endotoxic shock. Although sterilization kills bacteria, it does not destroy endotoxin, thus sterile products (like gloves and cellulose products) can have high endotoxin levels. Although there are required maximum levels on intravascular devices and even much lower maximum levels for products that contact the central nervous system. There are no requirements for the gloves that handle them. Endotoxin is readily transferred from gloves to other surfaces or washed into wounds when in contact with blood, tissue fluids or sterile irrigation saline.
Endotracheal Tube	A breathing tube passed into the trachea through the mouth or nose.
Engineering controls	Remove a hazard or place a barrier between the worker and the hazard.
Enteral	Into the stomach or intestine; a term used to describe tube feedings.
Enteral access devices	Tubes placed into the GI tract for the delivery of enteral formula and medications.
Enteral feeding	Nutrition provided into the gastrointestinal tract; also referred to as enteral nutrition.
Enteral feeding misconnection	A situation where tube feeding formula is accidentally connected to intravenous or other lines or catheters for which it was not intended.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Enteral feeding tubes	Tubes placed into the gastrointestinal tract for the delivery of enteral formula and medications; also referred to as enteral access devices.
Enteral nutrition	Nutrition provided into the gastrointestinal tract.
Enteral pump	Infusion pump designed specifically for delivery of enteral formula into an enteral feeding access.
Enterostomy	Creation of an artificial external opening or fistula in the intestines.
Environmental Services (ES)	Cleaning services within the hospital. Depending on the geographical region, may be referred to as Housekeeping or Custodial Services.
Enzymatic detergents	A cleaning substance composed of one or more detergents and one or more enzymes that act to break down specific substances, such as proteins, lipids or carbohydrates. In a general sense, enzymes also catalyze or speed up chemical reactions.
Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA)	Determines the level of a target even though it may be in very low concentrations. Advantages include the ability to adapt this assay to test for latex glove antigen (allergen) by utilizing a known amount of IgE antibodies to latex proteins derived from pooled serum; results expressed as mg/gm or ppm (allergen/gram of glove). The major disadvantage is that the level of antibody present is not necessarily directly related to the severity of the allergic response; an individual can have very little IgE and still have a severe response. SEE: ELISA
Eosinophils	Migrate to the sites of immediate type hypersensitivity (Type I) reactions where they modulate mast cell degranulation, attempting to reduce over-reaction; also destroy parasites.
EPA registered disinfectants	Must pass tests to determine effectiveness against different microorganisms to be allowed label claims by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
Epidemic	An excess over the expected incidence of disease within a geographic area during a specified time period.
Epidemiology	Study of the distribution and determinants of disease.
Epidermis	The epidermis is the layer of skin that you can see. Its primary function is the production of the stratum corneum for physical protection and prevention of excess water loss.
Epidural	Situated upon or administered or placed outside the dura mater (epidural anesthesia; an epidural abscess); an injection into the epidural space of the spine.
Epidural space	The space outside the dura mater, and within the spinal canal or braincase. The epidural space is really only a potential space, containing fatty tissue, blood vessels, and nerves.
Epiglottis cartilage	The uppermost cartilage of the larynx, located immediately posterior to the root of the tongue. It covers the entrance of the larynx and trachea when the individual swallows, thus preventing food or liquids from entering the airway. SEE larynx.
Epithelium	Tissue that forms a covering or lining.
Eructation	Belching or burping.
Erythema	Redness of the skin due to capillary dilation.
Eschar	Scar tissue.
Escherichia coli	<i>Escherichia coli</i> , commonly called <i>E. coli</i> , is a group of bacteria that normally live in the gastrointestinal tract of humans and animals and are regularly found in the stool. There are an increasing number of antibiotic resistant strains causing severe infections.
Esophagus	The passage in the throat through which food passes from the mouth into the stomach.
Eupnea	Normal, spontaneous breathing resulting in the movement of the tidal volume of air (approximately 500 mL) by the gentle movement of the diaphragm.
Exit Site Infection	Erythema or induration within 2 cm of the catheter exit site, in the absence of concomitant bloodstream infection (BSI) and without concomitant purulence (pus).
Exogenous risk factors for infection	Risk factors originating outside the patient including sources of microbial contamination (e.g. surgical team, water, environmental surfaces, air, insufficiently cleaned/sterilized devices, reused syringes, contaminated donor organs) or of reduced resistance to infection (not maintaining patient normothermia, leaving lint or powder in the surgical wound, allowing tissues to desiccate, etc.).
Expiratory compliance curve	A measure of the elastic properties of the lung generated during expiration; the curve is produced when the transpulmonary pressure (or distending pressure) is plotted against the lung volume during deflation.
Expiratory reserve volume (ERV)	The amount of air (approximately 1.2 L) that can be expelled at the end of normal tidal breath through forceful contraction of the accessory expiratory group of muscles.
Exposure time	The time the disinfectant must be in contact with the targeted organism to inactivate or kill it under the conditions stated on the manufacturers label instructions. For example, if the kill time for a spore is 10 minutes, the use dilution of a liquid disinfectant must remain wet and in contact for the entire 10 minutes, and not be wiped off or dry of its own accord until the 10 minute "kill time" is completed.
Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO)	Oxygenation of the blood outside the body (e.g., on pump or cardiopulmonary bypass).
Extracorporeal O ₂	Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) is conducted by passing the patient's blood through a unit that extracts CO ₂ from the patient's blood and incorporates O ₂ into the processed blood pumped back into the patient.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Extravasation	The leakage of intravenous drugs from the vein into the surrounding tissue. Extravasation injury usually refers to the damage caused by leakage of solutions from the vein to the surrounding tissue spaces during intravenous administration.
Exudate	Any fluid that has exuded out of a tissue or its capillaries, usually because of injury or inflammation.
Facultative anaerobe	A microbe that is able to survive with or without oxygen.
Fascia	Fibrous connective tissue that invests and covers muscles.
Fasciitis	Inflammation of the connective tissue, often caused by a bacterial infection including <i>C. perfringens</i> and <i>C. septicum</i> .
FDO2	Fraction of delivered oxygen (by device).
Feeding Pump	A small machine that automatically controls the amount of formula being delivered through the feeding tube.
Feeding Set	Tubing that connects the feeding container to the feeding tube.
Feeding Tube	Tube through which formula flows into the stomach or intestine.
FEF25-75%	Forced expiratory flow over middle half of forced vital capacity (FVC).
FFP2 respirators	CDC and WHO recommend NIOSH certified N95 or European CE certified EN 143 P2/EN149 FFP2 (which is comparable to the Australian Standard AS/NZS 1719 rated P2). The P2 particulate respirator must filter out 0.3 micron particles using these test methods at a 94% efficiency in order to receive its P2 rating. Also referred to as P2 Respirators.
Fiber	That portion of ingested foodstuffs that cannot be broken down by intestinal enzymes and therefore passes through the colon undigested; good for intestinal health; the thin thread-like structures that combine to form different fabrics and upon which infectious microorganisms may remain alive for many days to weeks.
Fibrin	An elastic, insoluble, whitish protein produced by the action of thrombin on fibrinogen and forming an interlacing fibrous network in the coagulation of blood, the formation of blood clots initiated for any reason. (thrombogenesis)
Filum terminale	A long, slender, nerve-free filament that forms the end of the spinal cord.
FIO ₂	Fraction of inspired oxygen.
First intention healing	The optimal type of healing in which the incised tissues heal from side to side with no presence of infection; also called primary union healing.
Fissure	Horizontal cracks in the skin most notable in irritation reactions.
Fistula	A fistula is an abnormal connection between an organ, vessel, or intestine and another structure. Fistulas are usually the result of injury or surgery. It can also result from infection or inflammation. Inflammatory bowel disease, such as ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease, is an example of a disease that leads to fistulas between one loop of intestine and another.
Fit test	All disposable respirators that rely on a mask-to-face seal need to be annually checked with either qualitative or quantitative methods to determine whether the mask provides an acceptable fit to a wearer. The qualitative fit test procedures rely on a subjective sensation (taste, irritation, smell) of the respirator wearer to a particular test agent. The quantitative fit test uses measuring instruments to measure face seal leakage. The relative workplace exposure level determines what constitutes an acceptable fit and which fit test procedure is required. The quantitative method exposes the wearer to a fine mist of airborne particles, utilizing a detection system to determine the number of particles outside the respirator versus the number that passed into the wearer's breathing zone.
Flare	A diffuse area of redness on the skin due to increase dilation of the local blood vessels.
Flash sterilization	Flash sterilization refers to steam sterilization that does not utilize a full or terminal cycle. The intention is to use it for emergency situations in the OR such as when an essential instrument is accidentally contaminated.
Flesh-eating bacteria	Formally known as necrotizing fasciitis caused by a number of bacteria including <i>streptococcus pyogenes</i> , <i>staphylococcus aureus</i> , <i>Vibrio vulnificus</i> , <i>clostridium perfringens</i> , <i>Bacteroides fragilis</i>), the disease causes a type of toxic shock syndrome and invades the human epithelial cells, causing rapid and extensive tissue destruction.
Flow-volume curve	The curve produced when the instantaneous flowrate of air (vertical, y-axis) is plotted against the volume of air moved (horizontal, x-axis); expiratory flow-volume curves are generated above the x-axis; inspiratory flow-volume curves are generated below the x-axis.
Fluid-resistance test (ASTM F 1862)	Developed to simulate a challenge to the fluid splash resistance of a face mask under conditions similar to actual use. During this test, face masks are insulted with synthetic blood, and graded as a pass or fail. The masks are evaluated at fluid pressures of 80, 120, and 160mm Hg. The higher the pressure at which a mask passes, the greater the fluid splash resistance.
Fluoroquinolones	Family of synthetic broad-spectrum antibiotics derived from nalidixic acid.
Fluoroscopy	An instrument used in medical diagnosis for observing the internal structure of opaque objects (as the living body) by means of the shadow cast by the object examined upon a fluorescent screen when placed between the screen and a source of X-rays.
Flush (vascular)	A saline solution used with vascular in-line catheters to push any blood back into circulation. Blood left in the catheter may clot which can release into the circulation (emboli), create a breeding ground for microbial growth within the catheter (biofilm), or create back flow conditions.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Flushing (feeding tube)	Process of pushing water through the feeding tube to clear it of formula or medications preserving patency and reducing microbial growth.
Foley Catheter	A rubber catheter with a balloon tip to be filled with a sterile liquid after it has been placed in the bladder using sterile technique; used when continuous drainage of the bladder is desired, such as in surgery, or when repeated urinary catheterization would be necessary if an indwelling catheter were not used.
Fomites	Inanimate objects capable of transporting bacteria, spores, viruses or other infectious agents to other surfaces or patients. Examples are contaminated bedding, linens, gloves, doorknobs, light switches, thermometer handles, clothing, PPE, blood pressure cuffs, light switches, remotes, monitor screens, computer keyboards, food trays, pens, charts, wheel chairs, etc.
Food safety	A term used to describe the handling procedures, sanitation, and freshness of food.
Foramen	A small opening, perforation, or orifice, as in a bone or between chambers as in foramen ovale.
Forced expiratory flow between 25% and 75% of FVC (FEF25%-75%)	Spirometric measurement of exhalation occurring in the middle half of a forced expiratory maneuver.
Forced expiratory volume in 1 second (FEV1)	The volume of air (in liters) exhaled in the first 1 second of a forced expiration.
Forced expiratory volume1 (FEV1)	Forced expiratory volume in the first second.
Forced vital capacity (FVC)	The change in lung volume from total lung capacity (TLC) to residual volume (RV) during a forced expiration. SEE lung volumes.
Foreign bodies	Items not recognized as “self” by the immune system and thus treated as a threat. Foreign bodies can include items such as device implants, transplant organs, incompatible blood transfusions, dead tissue, lap sponges, retractors, lint, glove powder and other particulates.
Foreign body reaction	A response of biological tissues to any foreign material in the tissue. Tissue-encapsulation of an implant is part of this. An infection around a splinter or fiber is part of this, too. A foreign body reaction also initiates an inflammatory response evoked by the presence of a foreign body in the tissues which results in the formation of giant cells and potentially granulomas and adhesions
Foreign debris	Small foreign bodies such as lint, glove powder and other particles.
Formula	Tube feeding solution that is most often commercially prepared and provides a complete liquid diet for those patients on enteral nutrition.
Free-chlorine	The amount of active chlorine available to kill microorganisms.
French	A measurement of graduating catheter size. 3 Fr (French) = 1 millimeter, 6 Fr=2millimeters in diameter.
French catheter scale or “French unit” (Fr)	A measurement commonly used to measure the outside diameter of needles, catheters, and other cylindrical medical instruments. One (1) Fr is equivalent to 0.33 mm = .013” = 1/77” of diameter.
Full body drape	A full body drape is required to meet the CDC Guideline for Central Line and PICC Line Insertions and exchanges specified in the definition of maximum sterile precautions. This full coverage prevents microorganisms, lint and debris from getting into the patient’s body, hair, clothing, oral or respiratory system, pillows, blankets, sheets, or attached devices and monitoring leads. Substituting two or more small drapes does not provide the same level of protection. They shift and rub against each other aerosolizing lint and bacteria, and they do not normally cover the same area. DO NOT reposition drape after set (see AORN sterile drapes above).
Functional residual capacity (FRC)	The amount of air (approximately 2.4 L for an adult) remaining in the lungs at the end of a normal exhalation; FRC consists of the expiratory reserve volume and the residual volume. The residual volume cannot be voluntarily exhaled; therefore, only part of the FRC is functional in terms of gas exchange. SEE lung volumes.
Fundus	The base or deepest part of an organ; the portion farthest from the mouth of an organ, such as the fundus of the uterus or the fundus of an eye.
Fungicide	An agent that kills fungi, such as <i>Aspergillus</i> .
Fungus	Multi-cellular organisms that include molds and mildews.
Furuncle	A skin infection involving an entire hair follicle and nearby skin tissue.
Fused	Joining of two or more into a single entity; the surgical joining of two or more vertebrae, performed to stabilize a segment of the spinal column after severe trauma, herniation of a disk, or degenerative disease.
Ganglia	Group of nerve cell bodies found in the peripheral nervous system.
Ganglion	[pl. <i>ganglia</i>]. A mass or knot consisting largely of nerve cell bodies and lying outside the central nervous system: e.g., the dorsal root ganglia of the spinal and cranial nerves, and the autonomic ganglia of the sympathetic and parasympathetic systems.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Ganglion impar	The two chains of sympathetic ganglia extending along the ventrolateral surfaces of the vertebral column from the upper cervical region to the coccyx. Each trunk consists of a series of sympathetic ganglia connected by a nerve cord. These nerve cords are composed largely of nerve fibers associated with the cell bodies within the ganglia. The right and left sympathetic trunks join, at the ventral surface of the coccyx, to form a single ganglion known as the ganglion impar, or ganglion of Walther. SEE sympathetic trunks.
Ganglion of Walther	The two chains of sympathetic ganglia extending along the ventrolateral surfaces of the vertebral column from the upper cervical region to the coccyx. Each trunk consists of a series of sympathetic ganglia connected by a nerve cord. These nerve cords are composed largely of nerve fibers associated with the cell bodies within the ganglia. The right and left sympathetic trunks join, at the ventral surface of the coccyx, to form a single ganglion known as the ganglion impar, or ganglion of Walther. SEE sympathetic trunks.
Gangrene	Death and decay of body tissue, often occurring in a limb, caused by insufficient blood supply and usually following injury, disease or infection.
Gastric Neoplasm	Abnormal tissue within the stomach that grows by cellular proliferation more rapidly than normal and continues to grow after the stimuli that initiated the new growth ceases.
Gastric Varices	A dilated, enlarged, or tortuous vein, artery, or lymphatic vessel within the stomach.
Gastroesophageal Reflux	Flow of acid or food particles from the stomach back up the esophageous.
Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD)	A disorder in which there is recurrent return of stomach contents back up into the esophagus, frequently causing heartburn, a symptom of irritation of the esophagus by stomach acid. This can lead to scarring and stricture of the esophagus, which can require stretching (dilating).
Gastrointestinal	Stomach and intestine.
Gastrointestinal decompression	The removal of gas or fluid from the stomach (also called venting).
Gastrointestinal tract	The musculomembranous tube that extends from the mouth to the anus in which the movement of muscles and release of hormones and enzymes digests food. The gastrointestinal tract starts with the mouth and proceeds to the esophagus, stomach, duodenum, small intestine, large intestine (colon), rectum and the anus. Also referred to as the alimentary canal, digestive tract and the GI tract.
Gastro-jejunal (GJ) feeding tube	Enteral feeding tube(s) which allow gastric (G) access for decompression or drainage and jejunal (J) access for feeding.
Gastropexy	Attachment of the stomach to the abdominal wall or diaphragm.
Gastrostomy	A surgical opening (stoma) through the skin into the stomach.
Gastrostomy tube	Enteral access device that is placed either endoscopically, surgically, or radiologically with the tip of the tube positioned in the stomach. This tube is considered for long-term enteral feeding.
Gate control theory	Theory stating that peripheral nerve fibers carrying pain to the spinal cord can have their message modified at the spinal cord level (the "gate") before transmission to the brain.
Gavage	Feeding through the tube.
Gelbo Lint Test	Industry-recognized test used in determining a fabric's propensity to generate lint particles when in use.
Genetically Predisposed	Capable of forming receptor sites to specific antigens based upon a individual's genetic make-up. This is often used to explain that some individuals cannot develop an allergy to "something-or-other" because they are not genetically predisposed (capable).
Germicidal detergent	Detergent that also is EPA-registered as a disinfectant.
Germicide	An agent that kills microorganisms; especial pathogenic organisms.
Glottis	The opening between the two vocal cords and the intervening space, the rima glottides. A leaf-shaped lid of fibrocartilage (the epiglottis) protects this opening. SEE larynx.
Glycocalyx	A layer of adhesive carbohydrates that covers the plasma membrane of a eukaryotic cell to strengthen the cell's surface and aid in cellular attachment. Colonization on a foreign substrate—like catheter facilitates morphing of the glycocalyx into a more robust biofilm community.
Gram Negative and Gram Positive	The Gram stain, named after Danish bacteriologist Christian Gram who developed the technique, is a method of dividing 99% of bacteria into two distinct categories. When bacteria are stained with certain basic dyes (e.g. crystal violet) the cells of some species can easily be decolorized with solvents such as ethanol or acetone and are counter stained pink. These are labeled Gram-negative bacteria. Cells that resist decolorization remain purple and are called Gram-positive. The ability to retain or lose the stain generally reflects fundamental structural differences in the cell wall. As the cell wall is one of the prime targets for antimicrobial activity, many antimicrobials will be much more effective in one category than the other. (e.g., penicillin better with Gram positives.)
Gram Staining	A widely used method for classifying bacteria that was invented in 1884 by Danish physician, Christian Gram. First, violet dye and iodine is used, followed by alcohol and a counter stain. As a result, either a gram-positive or gram-negative bacteria emerge.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Gram-Negative	Gram-negative bacteria are a type of bacteria that includes many pathogenic types, such as <i>Pseudomonas</i> and <i>Escherichia coli</i> (<i>E-coli</i>). They differ from gram-positive bacteria in that they contain an outer membrane in addition to a cell wall. Gram-negative bacteria appear bright pink to red when they are "Gram-stained".
Gram-Positive	Similar to gram-negative bacteria, but they do not contain an outer membrane. <i>Staphylococcus</i> is one example. Gram-positive bacteria appear dark purple when they are "Gram-stained".
Gram-positive organisms	Bacteria such as <i>Staphylococci</i> , <i>Streptococcus</i> , <i>Clostridia</i> and <i>Bacillus</i> species.
Granulation tissue (digestive)	Fleshy projections formed on the surface of the stoma that will later form fibrous scar tissue.
Granulation tissue (wound healing)	A type of tissue that contains new tissue elements including fibroblasts, developing blood vessels, fibrin, etc., and filling a wound during the healing process.
Granulomas	A medical term for a ball-like collection of immune cells which forms when the immune system attempts to wall off substances that it perceives as foreign but is unable to eliminate. Such substances include infectious organisms such as bacteria and fungi as well as other materials such as lint.
Gravity controlled	Administration method of infusing tube feeding formula with the assistance of gravity and not with the use of an enteral feeding pump. This method is often used with intermittent gastric feedings.
Gravity Drip	Formula flows into the stomach by gravity.
Gray matter	Brownish-gray nerve tissue, especially of the brain and spinal cord, composed of cell bodies and their dendrites and some supportive tissue, has a brownish gray color, and forms most of the cortex and nuclei of the brain, the columns of the spinal cord, and the bodies of ganglia -- also called gray substance.
Gray ramus communicans	The branch received by each spinal nerve from the adjacent ganglion of the sympathetic trunk.
G-Tube	Gastrostomy tube. A tube that passes through the skin into the stomach. Also called a feeding tube.
Guidewire	A device used to position an IV catheter, central venous line, or gastric feeding tube.
Guidewire exchanges	The insertion of a sterile guidewire through an existing vascular catheter that needs to be replaced. The catheter can then be removed over the guidewire and the new sterile catheter can be inserted over the guidewire, causing less tissue and vascular trauma. This cannot be done if the original catheter is implicated in a tissue or bloodstream infection. Guidewire exchanges must be performed under maximum sterile precautions with a full body drape coverage, as in the initial insertion.
Guillain-Barré Syndrome	Guillain-Barré syndrome is a disorder in which the body's immune system attacks part of the peripheral nervous system. The syndrome is rare, afflicting only about one person in 100,000. Typically complete recovery, in a few weeks or years, but can have lingering problems and can be severe. Usually occurs a few days or weeks after respiratory or gastrointestinal viral infection. Occasionally surgery or vaccinations will trigger the syndrome.
Haemophilus influenza	<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> , commonly referred to as "H flu," is a family of bacteria that causes a variety of infections. Most serious H flu infections are caused by type b strains. Before <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (Hib) vaccine was introduced in 1988, about 20,000 children in the United States under 5 years old developed severe Hib disease annually. Fortunately, Hib disease has decreased by > 99 percent in countries where Hib vaccine is used.
Hair Follicle	A sac from which a hair grows and into which the sebaceous oil glands open. The follicle is lined by cells derived from the epidermal layer of the skin. Bacteria reside along the shaft where they are protected from skin prep solutions.
Haldane effect	The oxygenation of hemoglobin, which lowers its affinity for carbon dioxide. It is the opposite of the Bohr effect.
Halo catheter	A halo shaped catheter used for flush injections.
Halogens	A class of disinfectants that include chlorine, bromine, iodine and fluorine and kill bacteria through oxidation.
Hand hygiene	A general term that applies to hand washing, antiseptic hand wash, antiseptic hand rub (ex. alcohol hand rub), or surgical hand antisepsis.
Hanging drop technique	A technique for determining when a needle has entered the epidural space of the spinal column. Since the pressure in the epidural space is less than atmospheric pressure, a drop of fluid within the hub of a needle will tend to be "sucked" inward when the needle tip enters the epidural space; In microbiology, a technique used to observe movement of parasites.
Hapten	A small biochemical group that initially by itself cannot elicit an allergic response. It must conjugate to a carrier (usually protein) to elicit an antibody response. Once it is recognized with a carrier, and antibodies are produced, the body may recognize the hapten without the carrier. Type I allergic reactions to chemicals like dyes fall into the hapten category.
Hard Water	Water which contains ions of Magnesium (Mg++) and Calcium (Ca++). Hard water ions make some disinfectants less efficacious.
Healing by secondary intention	Occurs when the wound is left open, due to the presence of infection, excessive trauma or skin loss. The wound edges come together naturally by means of new tissue formation (granulation tissue) from the base upwards with ensuing contraction.
Healthcare Associated Infection (HAI)	An infection acquired while in a healthcare facility. This includes hospitals, surgicenters, nursing homes, dialysis centers, drug treatment facilities, dental offices, etc.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC)	The Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee works with CDC in developing guidelines and recommendations.
Healthcare-Associated Pneumonia (HCAP)	Pneumonia that develops in a patient within 90 days of residing in any healthcare environment including but not limited to nursing homes, ambulatory surgical centers, hospitals, long term care facilities.
Hemagglutinin	A protein on the surface of influenza virus that functions to recognize and attach to specific receptor sites on the cell to be infected. The designation H in H1N1, H3N2, H5N1, etc., refers to a specific hemagglutinin type, of which there are 16 throughout nature.
Hematuria	Abnormal condition of red blood cells in the urine.
Hemodialysis	A form of dialysis in which the blood is cleaned outside the body, in a dialysis machine. The machine contains a filter called the dialyser or artificial kidney. Each dialysis session lasts for three to five hours, and sessions are usually needed three times a week. There is a high rate of patient and staff infections, latex allergy, toxic responses, etc.
Hemodialysis catheter	A plastic tube used to gain access to the bloodstream for hemodialysis.
Hemostasis	Stoppage of bleeding.
Henry's law	The relationship that states that, at a given temperature, the volume of gas that dissolves in a liquid is directly proportional to the partial pressure of the gas.
Hepatitis	Inflammation of the liver caused by disease or infection.
Hepatitis A virus (HAV)	An enveloped, single-stranded RNA virus that is transmitted by the fecal-oral route but is also found in the semen and blood; characterized by jaundice, fever, weakness, flu-like symptoms, and lymphadenopathy. There is a vaccine.
Hepatitis B virus (HBV)	An enveloped, single-stranded RNA virus. It is acquired from blood or sexually. The acute phase of infection is marked by jaundice, weakness, fatigue, fever, and nausea. Some patients develop a chronic HBV infection characterized by an inflammatory process that can lead to Cirrhosis and is also known to cause cancer of the liver. HCW occupational concern. There is a vaccine for HBV which has proven to be very successful..
Hepatitis C virus (HCV)	Formerly referred to as non-A, non-B. HCV is a hepatitis virus that is acquired from blood or sexually. May remain dormant for 20+ years before symptoms occur. Symptoms are similar to HBV. Can lead to cirrhosis requiring transplant and/or cancer. HCW occupational concern. No vaccine available.
Hepatitis D virus (HDV)	An enveloped RNA virus acquired from blood or sexual transmission. It infects only those liver cells that are already infected with HBV. It uses HBV enzymes to form a protein coat that allows it to survive outside of the liver; also known as the Delta virus. HCW occupational concern. No vaccine.
Hepatitis E virus (HEV)	A non-enveloped, single-stranded RNA virus transmitted through the fecal-oral route; causes acute but not chronic infection. No vaccine available.
Hepatomegaly	Abnormal enlargement of the liver often due to disease or infection.
Hering-Breuer deflation reflex	A reflex mediated by a slowly adapting receptor known as a pulmonary stretch receptor. The reflex provides expiratory facilitation by reducing the period of expiration following marked deflation of the lung. SEE slowly adapting
Herpes zoster	A disease caused by Varicella-Zoster virus, the same virus that causes chickenpox. The virus is latent and then reactivated, possibly by stress, causing a new outbreak of the virus with vesicles similar to chickenpox except the infection follows cutaneous sensory nerves, causing nerve infections and pain; also called shingles.
Hertz (Hz)	Unit of frequency; 1 Hz equals one cycle per second.
Hexachlorophene	Phenolic preparation that disrupts the cell by denaturing the cell protein. More effective against gram positive than negative bacteria. Little or no effect on TB or viruses. It's activity is reduced by the presence of organic material and blood as well as alcohol and household soaps. It can be absorbed through the skin and can cause neurotoxicity. Use only in special circumstances.
High-level disinfectant	Agent capable of killing bacterial spores when used in sufficient concentration under suitable conditions. It therefore is expected to kill all other microorganisms. EPA approval for use on spores must be obtained for stated claim and product used according to manufacturer's directions. If label not followed, user takes liability.
Histamine	A substance found in basophil and mast cells that is released as part of an allergic reaction, causing vasodilation, constriction of smooth muscles such as those found in the respiratory tract, increases capillary permeability and can cause itching, tearing, hives, nausea, diarrhea, anaphylaxis, etc. Antihistamines, Benadryl and epinephrine are given over counter depending on severity of reaction.
Histotoxic hypoxia	Hypoxia caused by disruption of cellular enzyme systems by poisons (e.g., cyanide) that impair cellular respiration. Cells are unable to utilize the oxygen despite adequate availability.
Homeostasis	The state of equilibrium of the bodily, physiological and function components; normal state.
Hospice	A community of professional and nonprofessional people, supplemented by volunteer services, that provides palliative and supportive care for terminally ill persons in the last stages of life and their families.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Hospital disinfectant	Disinfectant registered for use in hospitals, clinics, dental offices, and any other medical-related facility. Efficacy is demonstrated against <i>Salmonella choleraesuis</i> , <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> , and <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> . EPA has registered approximately 1,200 hospital disinfectants.
Hospital-Associated Pneumonia (HAP)	Pneumonia that develops in a patient ≥48 hours after admission, that was not present upon admission.
Huber needle	A 90° angled non-coring needle used for accessing ports.
Hydrophilic	Attracts water molecules and becomes slippery when exposed to fluid.
Hydrostatic pressure test	AATCC 127 determines the amount of pressure required to force water through a fabric measured in centimeters of water pressure (cm H ₂ O).
Hyper-	Above, higher than normal.
Hyperalgesia	Increased pain from a stimulus that normally provokes pain.
Hyperalimentation	The administration of nutrients by intravenous feeding, especially to individuals unable to take in food through the alimentary tract.
Hyperbaric	1) Characterized by greater than normal pressure or density. Applies to a solution more dense than the diluent solution or medium it is being introduced to. In anesthesia, a hyperbaric solution has a density greater than that of spinal fluid. 2) Refers to increased air or gas pressure such as hyperbaric chambers used to treat burn victims, decompression sickness (the "bends").
Hypercapnia	Accumulation of excessive carbon dioxide in the blood; also hypercarbia.
Hypercatabolic	A metabolic state where the patient is breaking down more protein and excreting more nitrogen than he or she is retaining leading to weight loss and wasting.
Hypercoagulability	Abnormal tendency to excessive clotting (thrombosis).
Hypergranulation tissue	A term given to granulation tissue extending above the wound margins; also referred to as "proud flesh".
Hyperkeratinization	Excessive development of keratin in the epidermis, usually on the palms of the hands or soles of the feet. In the mouth, white patchy layers of mucus membrane sometimes caused by radiation therapy.
Hypermetabolic	A metabolic state where the energy expenditure of the patient is significantly higher than baseline and the patient requires much more nutrition than normal. This usually occurs with severe stress, sepsis, or trauma.
Hyperoxygenation	Increased oxygenation via ventilator or Ambu bag.
Hyperpnea	An increase in the depth of breathing, with or without an increase in the rate of breathing.
Hypersensitivity	Term used to describe an exaggerated response to a foreign substance (i.e., an antigen), which causes tissue damage in a host after repeated challenges, causing the individual to become sensitized. Type I hypersensitivity mediated by IgE antibodies and produces an immediate (minutes to an hour) reaction; e.g. peanut, latex, penicillin allergy. Type IV hypersensitivity is cell mediated and response requires 24-72 hours for the rash-like symptoms to fully express, skin transplants to be rejected, etc.
Hypersporulation	Describes the production of a much higher number of spores per population of a specific spore-forming bacterium than is usually encountered. Hypersporulation increases the likelihood of successful dispersion and of being transmitted to a vulnerable host.
Hyperthermia	A much higher than normal core body temperature.
Hypertonic or Hyperosmolar	In digestive health, a property of a tube feeding formula where the osmolality (particles per volume of solute) is greater than 300 mOsm.
Hypertoxic	A term that refers to either the production of an extreme amount of toxin (poison) or a toxin that causes more harm than normally encountered. In either case, there is a more severe level of morbidity.
Hyperventilation	An increase in ventilation reaching the alveoli that results from an increase in the depth of breathing, the rate of breathing, or both.
Hypo-	Below, under, deficient, containing less than usual.
Hypoalgesia	Decreased pain in response to a normally painful stimulus.
Hypoallergenic	1) Term developed to describe a reduced possibility of developing a dermatological response to chemicals utilized in production of a given product. 2) Passage of the 200 person modified Draize test, as defined by the FDA & ASTM, reflects reduced contact dermatitis potential (Type IV) to the product.
Hypobaric	Characterized by less than normal pressure or density. Applies to a solution with lower specific gravity than that of another solution taken as a reference.
Hypochlorite	As a surface disinfectant, used at the right concentration and pH is effective against most vegetative bacteria, fungi, enveloped and non-enveloped viruses as well as <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> and bacterial spores if solution remains at high concentration. It is inactivated by organic substances. For sporicidal concentration: 1 part household bleach to 9 parts water; approximately 5,000 ppm free chlorine - good for 24 hours, then need to make fresh again.
Hypogastric plexus	Location: promontory of sacrum. Serves pelvic plexus and viscera of pelvis. Contains sympathetic elements.
Hypoplasia	Underdevelopment undevelopment of a tissue or organ.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Hypothermia	A core temperature less than 36°C (96.8°F).
Hypothermic	Body temperatures below 36°C or 96.8°F, where the physiology of the tissue and at the cellular level is adversely affected including the immune response (resulting in an increased risk of infection), poor clotting, reduced drug clearance and poor quality scar tissue. There are times when hypothermia is intentionally induced locally or systemically, reducing cellular activity such as after a heart attack, stroke, or during heart surgery. This reduces oxygen demand and can be protective of vulnerable tissues near the injury. However, temperature must be brought back to normal levels as soon as possible to avoid the deleterious effects of hypothermia during patient recovery.
Hypoventilation	A decrease in ventilation reaching the alveoli that results from a decrease in the depth of breathing, the rate of breathing, or both.
Hypoxemia	Decreased oxygen content in arterial blood.
Hypoxia	Low or inadequate oxygen or a relative deficiency of oxygen for cellular metabolism. Several types of hypoxia are recognized: anemic hypoxia, histotoxic hypoxia, hypoxic hypoxia, and stagnant hypoxia.
Hypoxic hypoxia	Hypoxic hypoxia is commonly referred to as hypoxemic hypoxia (or relative deficiency in the bloodstream), but is described accurately as a condition of relative oxygen deficiency in the tissues caused by low arterial oxygen tension.
Hypoxic pulmonary vasoconstriction	The response of pulmonary arterioles to depressed alveolar oxygen tension. The vascular response shunts pulmonary blood flow away from alveoli that are under-ventilated, toward lung regions that are better ventilated, thus minimizing the effect of ventilation-perfusion inequalities in the lung.
Iatrogenic	Usually an adverse condition or complication resulting from the activity of a physician, surgeon, exposure to the healthcare environment, or hospital service.
Ideal body weight (IBW)	A predicted weight where a person is said to be in proportion to height and consistent with the “healthiest” weight according to standards; may also be expressed as ideal body weight range (IBWR).
Idiopathic	Without a known cause.
Idiosyncratic effect	Unexpected unique bodily response that causes unpredictable abnormal symptoms in clients.
Ileocecal valve	The sphincter muscle separating the small and large intestines.
Ileostomy	The surgical procedure of attaching the ileum (small intestine) to the abdominal wall at a stoma (similar to a colostomy) where waste passes out of the ileostomy and is collected in an external pouch.
Ileum	The last portion of the small intestine.
Ilium	The uppermost and widest of the three bones constituting either of the lateral halves of the pelvis that in humans is broad and expanded above and narrower below where it joins with the ischium and pubis to form part of the acetabulum.
Immune system interference/distraction	When foreign bodies such as lint are present in the blood or tissues, the body’s immune responses focus on removing this relatively large threat by attempting to destroy or wall it off. Physically smaller threats, such as bacteria, are ignored while the defenses are thus engaged enabling the few bacteria present to multiply and initiate an infection.
Immunization	The process of providing immunity by administering a vaccine.
Immunocompromised	A patient who has a lowered immune system, which makes the individual vulnerable to pathogenic and opportunistic infections.
Immunofluorescence	A technique for the identification of an antigen by exposing it to antibodies. A fluorochrome is added that chemically combines with the antibodies. When the fluorescent antibodies bind to the pathogen specific antigens on the bacterial surface of the specimen, the bacteria fluoresce if they are the suspected bacteria.
Immunoglobulin (IG)	An antibody produced in response to a specific antigen and can react with only that antigen.
Immunoglobulin A (IgA)	An Ig (immunoglobulin) found in the body fluids such as tears, saliva, and in the fluids of the respiratory, reproductive, urinary and gastrointestinal tract. Protects body's mucosal tissues from infection.
Immunoglobulin E (IgE)	Antibody that is made after contact with an allergen and, once made, attaches to mast cells (in tissues) and basophil cells (in blood). Mediates immediate type hypersensitivity reactions (Type I).
Immunoglobulin G (IgG)	Attaches to foreign bodies as well as bacteria to incapacitate and assist in their destruction. These are the antibodies created by the body when individuals are inoculated with vaccines.
Immunoglobulin M (IgM)	Produced early in response to a pathogen. Primary seen in the blood. Efficient against bacteria and activates
Immunosuppression	The immune system's inhibited ability to respond to antigenic stimuli; caused by disease or the use of certain drugs.
Immunosuppressive	Any chemical, pharmacological, physical, or immunologic agent that inhibits the immune response.
Impedance	Opposition to blood flow in the circulatory system.
Implanted CL port	A central line access port is implanted subcutaneously. It provides the patient requiring chronic treatment more freedom and fewer opportunities for infection while being more discrete. Patients requiring frequent treatments are not candidates for implanted ports as frequent punctures can break down the skin covering the port.
In utero (congenital) infection	Infection of the newborn acquired in utero and present at birth.
Inanimate surface	Nonliving surface (e.g., floors, walls, furniture).
Incidence	Number of new cases of disease in a population over a period of time.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Incidence rate	The number of <u>new</u> cases per specific population in a given time period.
Incision & drainage (I & D)	Surgical procedure in which a body part is incised and pus is drained from the site of an abscess.
Incisional infection	An infection that penetrates the skin, subcutaneous tissue, and muscle that occurs at the site of the surgical incision usually within 30 days of the surgical procedure.
Incubation period	The time interval between initial contact with an infectious agent and the first appearance of symptoms associated with the infection and/or laboratory detection.
Incubator	Apparatus for maintaining a constant and suitable temperature for the growth and cultivation of microorganisms.
Incubatory carrier	A human with a disease who is capable of transmitting the pathogen during the incubation period of an infectious disease.
Index case	The first known case with a specific microorganism or disease; usually used as the first known case in a cluster or outbreak.
Index patient	The first patient to acquire a specific infection. An important part of an epidemiological investigation following an outbreak. May also be referred to as patient zero.
Indicators	Prospectively determined measures used as normative standards within a quality assurance process. For example, the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (A.S.P.E.N.) outlines 3 indicators: Clinical, Process and Outcome Indicators.
Indigenous microflora	Microbes that normally reside in the deeper layers of the skin on the human body. Older term is "normal flora".
Indirect transmission	Transmission of a pathogen occurs via a contaminated intermediary. For example: <i>C. difficile</i> spores contaminate a HCW gloves. When removing her gloves, the provider unknowingly contaminates her hands. She practices immediate hand hygiene with an alcohol based hand rub (does not kill spores). She uses the electronic thermometer on the next patient, checks her vitals and straightens her pillow. The spores are on the thermometer handle, the patient and the linens. The HCW serves as the intermediary; the transporter.
Induration	Firm or hard tissue caused by inflammatory swelling with excessive influx of white blood cells.
Infarction	The obstruction of the blood supply to an organ or region of tissue, typically by a thrombus or embolus, causing local death of the tissue
Infection	The invasion and growth of opportunistic and/or pathogenic microorganisms in the body, causing disease by local cell injury, secretion of a toxin, antigen-antibody reaction, or release of cell-wall endotoxin.
Infectious dose	Number of microorganisms required to cause an infection.
Infectious microorganisms	Microorganisms capable of producing disease in appropriate hosts.
Inferior	Situated below and closer to the feet than another and especially another similar part of an upright body especially of a human being.
Infiltration	The pathological diffusion or accumulation in a tissue or cells of substances not normal to it or in amounts in excess of normal. Infiltration as it applies specifically to immune cells, occurs when white cells enter a region of the body in attempts to defend against infection or other invasive threat such as toxins, lint or debris.
Inflammation	Cellular or systemic response to physiological, chemical or biologic injury. Involves influx of fluids, white cells, dilated vessels (redness) and increased systemic and/or local temperature. Four fundamentals: redness, heat, swelling, and pain. Condition resulting from tissue response to injury or stimulation by noninfectious agents (e.g., thermal burns, chemicals, toxins).
Inflammatory response	A tissue reaction to injury or an antigen that may include pain, swelling, itching, redness, heat, and loss of function.
Influenza A	Is one of the three categories of influenza virus classified according to the antigens in the protein coat. Influenza A causes the flu in man, several other mammals and in birds. Disease may be mild or severe and can be fatal. Influenza A is the basis of all historic pandemic influenzas. Extreme genetic instability; very active genetic drift and shift enabling frequent mutations and alteration in immune/vaccine recognition.
Influenza B	Is one of the three categories of influenza virus. Influenza B causes influenza in man and seals. Genetic drift occurs, but reassortment is almost non-existent rendering the virus fairly stable. Resulting illness is usually mild upper respiratory; rarely neurological complications.
Influenza C	Is one of the three categories of influenza virus. Influenza C causes influenza that infects humans only, causing mild upper respiratory infections. The virus is very stable with no genetic shift and only rarely genetic shift.
Influenza transmission	Influenza is transmitted via large droplets, contact transmission (ex. touching a surface where cough-derived, virus-laden droplets have fallen and then rubbing your nose or touching your lips or eyes) and small aerosol nuclei (airborne) that can remain in the air for long periods.
Infusate	Substance being infused.
Infusate-related bloodstream infection	Concordant growth of the same organism from the infusate and blood cultures preferably percutaneously drawn) with no other identifiable source of infection.
Infusion	The introduction of a solution (infusate) through a blood vessel via a catheter lumen. This may include continuous infusions such as nutritional fluids or medications, or it may include intermittent infusions such as flushes or IV antimicrobial administration, or blood, in the case of transfusion or hemodialysis.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Inhalation anthrax	Also referred to as “wool-sorters” disease. The lethal form of anthrax acquired by breathing in the bacterial spores. By contrast, getting anthrax through breaches in the skin causes cutaneous anthrax which is readily treatable and rarely lethal.
Innominate bone	The large flaring bone that makes a lateral half of the pelvis in mammals and is composed of the ilium, ischium, and pubis which are consolidated into one bone in the adult -- called also hip bone, os coxae, pelvic bone.
Inorganic and organic load	Naturally occurring or artificially placed inorganic (e.g., metal salts) or organic (e.g., proteins) contaminants on a surface or medical device before exposure to a microbicidal process.
Inspiratory capacity (IC)	The amount of air (approximately 3.6 L) brought into the lungs by a maximal inspiratory effort following a normal expiration; IC equals the tidal volume plus the inspiratory reserve volume. SEE lung volumes.
Inspiratory compliance curve	A measure of the elastic properties of the lung generated during inspiration; the curve is produced when the transpulmonary pressure (or distending pressure) is plotted against the lung volume during inflation.
Inspiratory reserve volume (IRV)	The amount of air (approximately 3.1 L) that can be inhaled beyond the normal tidal volume; the IRV is attained by the combined activity of the diaphragm and the accessory inspiratory group of muscles.
Insulin	A hormone secreted by the pancreas that decreases the blood glucose level by increasing the storage of glycogen and use of glucose by cells for energy production. Too little insulin results in hyperglycemia (too much glucose in the blood) and too much results in insulin shock.
Integument	The enveloping membrane of the body, including the dermis, epidermis, hair, nails, and sebaceous, sweat, and mammary glands.
Integumentary system	Skin and its associated structures (hair, nails, oil and sweat glands, blood vessels, nerves, and sensory organs).
Interferon	A natural cellular protein manufactured by specific cells of the human immune system in response to exposure to a virus; it inhibits the ability of that virus to replicate within the host’s cells.
Interlaminar	Descriptive term pertaining to some object (a void), event (a fracture), or potential field (a shear stress) referenced as existing or occurring between two or more adjacent laminae.
Intermediate-level disinfectant	An agent that destroys all vegetative bacteria, including tubercle bacilli, lipid and some non-lipid viruses, and fungi, but not bacterial spores.
Intermittent Feeding	Feeding smaller amounts of formula frequently during the day or night.
Intermittent feeding administration	A feeding administration method where a larger volume of formula is delivered over about 30 minutes and is given at set intervals throughout the day. It is usually given via the gravity method and allows the patient increased mobility.
International Nonwovens & Disposables Association (INDA)	An association which develops test methods and standards for various nonwoven products.
Interspinous ligament	[Also, <i>interspinal</i> ligament] One of the thin membranous ligaments that connect the spinous processes of adjoining vertebrae. The ligament extends from the base to the apex of the spinous process.
Interstitium	The space or gap in a tissue or structure of an organ.
Interventional	Specialty with medical imaging (Radiology) which uses various radiology techniques such as x-ray, CT scans, MR scans, and ultrasounds to perform minimally invasive procedures for both diagnostic (angiograms) and therapeutic purposes (e.g., angioplasties).
Interventional Radiologist	A subspecialty of radiology in which minimally invasive procedures are performed using image guidance.
Intervertebral disc	A broad disk of fibrocartilage situated between adjacent vertebrae of the spinal column.
Intervertebral foramen	A lateral passage between two adjacent vertebrae, through which the spinal nerve and blood vessels pass.
Intestinal crypts	The “valleys” between intestinal villi.
Intestinal translocation	Movement of bacteria from the gut into the bloodstream. Risks of this occurring are increased in patients who are on chemotherapy, are malnourished, burn or trauma patients, in shock, or are on heavy antibiotics, altering the intestinal flora and function.
Intima	The inner cellular lining of the vein wall which consists of a single cell; generally intima means “innermost”.
Intra-alveolar pressure	The pressure within the alveoli of the lungs. SYN: alveolar pressure; intrapulmonary pressure.
Intractable pain	Chronic pain that persists despite therapeutic interventions.
Intrathecal	Literally, “within a sheath.” In anesthesia, refers to the subarachnoid space; within either the subarachnoid or subdural space.
Intrathecal space	Below the arachnoid mater. In anesthesia, refers to spinal anesthetic injections into the cerebrospinal fluid, which is contained within the subarachnoid space. SYN: subarachnoid space.
Intravascular access catheters	Peripheral venous access catheter: ¾ to 1 inch long for typical short stay IV access. Change every 3 days.
Intrinsic oscillator	A functional area of the brainstem involved in the control of ventilation. This control area receives afferent impulses from peripheral receptors, integrates them with the functional state of the controlling neurons, and sends integrated command signals to the muscles of breathing. Ventilatory control oscillates, or alternates, between mutually antagonistic groups of nerve cells controlling the various muscles of breathing.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Iodophor agents	Skin preparations that release free iodine on contact with skin or mucous membranes. They have rapid kill but minimal residual activity. Their effectiveness is reduced or blocked by the presence of organic materials such as blood and sputum. Not always effective against pseudomonas.
Ionic	Of, relating to, existing as, or characterized by ions <ionic gases> <the ionic charge>; based on or functioning by means of ions <ionic conduction>.
Ipsilateral	Relating to the same side.
Irritant contact dermatitis	A dermatitis caused by a substance that chemically injures, physically abrades or otherwise damages the skin.
Irritant reflex (respiratory)	Protective reflex of the tracheo-bronchial tree that restricts entry of potentially damaging substances into the deeper and more vulnerable parts of the respiratory system. Subepithelial irritant receptors are stimulated by inhaled noxious gases, particulate matter, allergens, or pathogens. The motor response resulting from the stimulation results in rapid bronchospasm, glandular secretion, and histamine release. This can also occur during bronchoscopic procedures. SYN bronchoconstriction reflex.
Irritation	An inflammatory reaction of tissues to an injury. An irritation is a non-allergic condition that possesses no physiological memory of the offending substance. Repeated contact will result in cumulative irritation which may cause contact dermatitis on the skin, trigger asthma if inhaled, increase wound inflammation, initiate granulomas and adhesions, etc.
Ischemia	Local inadequate blood supply resulting in local hypoxia-decreased oxygenation of the affected tissue.
Ischium	The dorsal and posterior of the three principal bones composing either half of the pelvis consisting in humans of a thick portion, a large rough eminence on which the body rests when sitting, and a forwardly directed ramus which joins that of the pubis.
Isobaric	Characterized by normal pressure or density. Applies to a solution with specific gravity equal to that of another solution (e.g. cerebrospinal fluid) taken as a reference.
Isolation	Separation of infected/exposed persons from others for the period of communicability in order to reduce infection transmission risks.
Isotonic	Tube feeding formula osmolality of about 300 mOsm, which is equivalent to the body fluid osmolality.
Jejunostomy	Surgical formation of an opening through the abdominal wall into the jejunum.
Jejunostomy tube	Enteral access device that is placed endoscopically, surgically, or radiologically with the tip of the tube positioned in the jejunum. This tube is considered for long-term feeding.
Jejunum	Part of the small intestine. It is half-way down the small intestine between its duodenum and ileum sections.
Joint Commission	An independent, not-for-profit organization, the Joint Commission is the nation's predominant standards-setting and accrediting body in health care. Since 1951, the Joint Commission has maintained state-of-the-art standards that focus on improving the quality and safety of care provided by health care organizations. The Joint Commission's comprehensive accreditation process evaluates an organization's compliance with these standards and other accreditation requirements. They also have an extensive education function.
Kaposi's sarcoma	Cancerous lesions often evident in mouth and on skin; occurs most often in men and is associated with diabetes,
Keloid scarring	Hypertrophic scar formation that mainly occurs in dark-skinned individuals; often develops at the site of a surgical incision or when a wound is allowed to heal by second intention healing (granulation).
Keloid	Hypertrophic (progressively enlarging) scar.
Klebsiella pneumoniae	<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> is a common hospital-acquired pathogen, causing urinary tract infections, nosocomial pneumonia, and intra-abdominal infections; it is also a potential community-acquired pathogen, and has some multi-drug resistant strains.
Kussmaul's breathing	A pattern of breathing characterized by an increase in the rate and depth of breathing, resulting in a deep, gasping type of respiratory pattern. Kussmaul's breathing sometimes accompanies severe nonrespiratory acidosis, as occurs in severe salicylate toxicity.
Kwashiorkor	Malnutrition related to protein depletion over a short period of time.
Kyphosis	Exaggerated outward curvature of the thoracic region of the spinal column resulting in a rounded upper back.
Laboratory-Confirmed Bloodstream Infection (BSI)	Must meet at least one of the following criteria: <u>Criterion 1:</u> Patient has a recognized pathogen cultured from one or more blood cultures which is <i>not</i> related to an infection at another site. <u>Criterion 2:</u> Patient has at least one of the following signs or symptoms: fever (>100.4°F [>38°C]), chills, or hypotension, AND signs and symptoms and positive laboratory results are not related to an infection at another site, AND at least one of the following: 1. Common skin contaminant (e.g., diphtheroids, Bacillus sp., Propionibacterium sp., coagulase-negative <i>Staphylococci</i> , or <i>micrococci</i>) cultured from two or more blood cultures drawn on separate occasions. 2. Common skin contaminant (noted above) cultured from at least one blood culture from a patient with an intravascular line, and the physician institutes appropriate antimicrobial therapy. 3. Positive antigen (specific markers unique to that pathogen) test on blood (e.g., H. influenzae, <i>S. pneumoniae</i> , <i>N. meningitidis</i> , or Group B <i>streptococcus</i>).
Lamina	A thin plate or scale.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Laparoscopic	A procedure using a type of endoscope consisting of an illuminated tube with an optical stem that is inserted through the abdominal wall for examining the peritoneal cavity.
Laparotomy	Any surgical incision into the peritoneal cavity, usually performed under general or regional anesthesia, often on an exploratory basis.
Laryngopharynx	The portion of the pharynx below the upper edge of the epiglottis; it opens in to the larynx and esophagus.
Laryngospasm	Spasmodic obstruction of the larynx caused by endotracheal intubation, aspiration, chemical irritation or hypocalcemia.
Laryngotracheobronchitis	An inflammation of the larynx, trachea, and bronchi causing hoarseness, dyspnea, and nonproductive cough; caused by either a viral or bacterial infection. Also referred to as croup.
Larynx	Situated between the pharynx and trachea; contains the vocal cords.
Laser plume	Laser-vaporized tissue; the plume contains strands of DNA and sometimes infective virus and bacteria that become airborne and are a biological hazard to surgical personnel.
Latent infection	An infection that recurs to cause disease in opportune conditions; in particular, viruses such as the chickenpox or herpes virus that remain in the body for a lifetime.
Lateral	Away from, or further from, the midsagittal plane. SEE midline.
Latex	The technical term refers to a colloidal substance in an aqueous solution. Thus, there are lots of things that are latex. Practically, health care uses the term for products that contain natural rubber latex originating from the rubber
Latex ELISA for Antigenic Protein (LEAP)	An ELISA utilizing rabbit IgG antibodies made to latex proteins. The advantages include specific for latex proteins, that the assay is very sensitive and is specific to latex protein where the Lowry Test measures total protein of any
Lavage	Washing out.
Leaching	Process by which chemicals or contaminants are dissolved and carried away by water into manufacturing process. In healthcare, drugs or other substances may be leached from objects after contact with any body or other fluid by design or not.
Legionellosis	A disease characterized by a high fever, cough, and general symptoms of pneumonia and caused by the aerobic gram-negative <i>Legionella pneumophila</i> . Sources have been contaminated air conditioning systems, humidifiers, and other water sources.
Lesion	Wound or injury; pathogenic change in a tissue; one point of a multifocal disease.
Lesioning	To produce lesions in.
Leukocyte	White blood cell defense system. Leukocytes include: neutrophils, B-cells, T-cells, macrophages, mast cells, and eosinophils. See individual terms for complete definitions.
Leukocytosis	Abnormal elevation in the white blood cell count.
Leukoplakia	A precancerous, slowly developing change in a mucous membrane characterized by thickened, white, firmly attached patches that are slightly raised and sharply circumscribed; those appearing on the lips and buccal mucosa are typically associated with pipe smoking.
Lichenification	Thickening and hardening of the skin with exaggeration of its normal markings (resembles elephant skin in appearance).
Ligament	A tough band of tissue that serves to connect the articular extremities of bones or to support or retain an organ in place and is usually composed of coarse bundles of dense white fibrous tissue parallel or closely interlaced, pliant, and flexible, but not extensible; any of various folds or bands of pleura, peritoneum, or mesentery connecting parts or organs.
Ligament of Treitz	Band of muscle beyond which jejunal tube placement is typically made in order to prevent migration of the tube back into the stomach.
Ligamentum flavum	(<i>pl. ligamenta flava</i>) The yellow band of fibrous connective tissue connecting the laminae of adjacent vertebrae.
Limited disinfectant	Disinfectant registered for use against a specific major group of organisms (gram-negative or gram-positive bacteria). Efficacy has been demonstrated in laboratory tests against either <i>Salmonella choleraesuis</i> or <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> bacteria.
Lipase	An enzyme that breaks down lipids (fats).
Lipid virus	Virus unit surrounded by an envelope of lipoprotein in addition to the usual core of nucleic acid surrounded by a coat of protein. This type of virus (e.g., HIV) is generally easily inactivated by many types of disinfectants. Also called enveloped or lipophilic virus.
Lobes of the lung	One of the five major sections of the lungs: superior and inferior lobes of the left lung; superior, middle, and inferior lobes of the right lung.
Localized Catheter Colonization	Significant number of microorganisms cultured from the catheter tip, subcutaneous segment of the catheter, or catheter hub.
Lock solution	Once a Central Venous Catheter has been placed the challenge is to keep the lumen patent (free from clogging) and to prevent infection. Is an anticoagulant or anticoagulant / antimicrobial solution that is placed in the catheter and held (or locked in place) for a specified amount of time (usually 10-60 minutes).

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Log	Reduction or increase in microbial counts is often expressed in Log base 10. This is the number of times 10 must be multiplied by itself to equal a certain number. For example, Log2 is $10 \times 10 = 100$. Log3 is $10 \times 10 \times 10 = 1000$. This is also expressed as 10^3 . A more simplified explanation is to use the superscript number to determine the number of zeros that will follow 1. 10^5 would be 1 + 5 zeros or $1 + 00000 = 100,000$. <i>Application:</i> A prep solution produced a 4Log reduction on a skin surface that had a million (10^6) organisms per cm^2 . That means that 4Log or Log4 or L4 or 10^4 equals $10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 = 10,000$ organisms killed. Subtract that from the original one million organisms per cm^2 and you have $10^6 - 10^4 = 10^2$ or 100 microorganisms per cm^2 left.
LONCET* breathable film	A patented breathable film which helps protect healthcare workers against exposure to blood and body fluids while maintaining breathe-ability. Air can easily pass through the film in both directions, but the little "volcanoes" in the film resist incoming penetration by fluids. The film gives our FLUIDSHIELD* masks their fluid resistance of 160 mmHg (according to ASTM F 1862 Fluid Resistance Test.)
Long-term enteral nutrition	Enteral nutrition that is required for greater than 3 to 4 weeks.
Lordosis	Abnormally increased inward (anteriorly convex) curvature of the lower region of the spine (vertebral column) resulting in a concave back as viewed from the side; the normal lordosis of the cervical and lumbar regions are secondary curvatures of the vertebral column, acquired postnatally -- compare kyphosis.
Loss of resistance technique	A technique for determining when a needle has entered the epidural space. As the needle passes through the ligamentum flavum, the resistance to injection suddenly drops, signifying entrance into the epidural space. For this technique, a special syringe with low resistance to plunger movement is used.
Low profile feeding device	Describes an enteral feeding device (port and closure very close to the skin) used for patients who would benefit from
Lower respiratory tract	The part of the respiratory system that begins with the larynx and continues as several generations of airway branches supplying the alveoli.
Lower urinary-tract infection (UTI)	Infection of the lower part of the urinary system, including the bladder and urethra; most often it is a bacterial infection.
Low-level disinfectant	Agent that destroys all vegetative bacteria (except tubercle bacilli), lipid viruses, some non-lipid viruses, and some fungi, but not bacterial spores.
Lowry	Determines the concentration of total protein present in a sample. Proteins are purified by acid precipitation, minimizing interference to the assay from predict chemicals. Results are expressed as mg of total protein extracted mg/gm of sample, mg/dm^2 as a per surface area. The greater the number, the greater the amount of protein present. The difference between the Bradford and the Lowry is that they are based on the recognition of different amino acids and are affected by different interfering substances.
Lumbar	Pertaining to the part of the body between the thorax and the pelvis.
Lumbar plexus	Location: psoas muscle. Supplies the anterolateral abdominal wall, external genitalia, part of the pelvic girdle, and lower extremities. Contains both somatic and autonomic elements.
Lumbar vertebrae	The five bones of the spine supporting the lower back.
Lumen	The space in the interior of a tubular structure, such as an artery or the intestine; the volume enclosed within the membranes of a mitochondrion or of the endoplasmic reticulum; the bore of a catheter or hollow needle.
Lung resistance	The impedance (resistance) encountered. Lung resistance is due to nonelastic resistance caused by the combined effect of airway resistance, tissue viscous resistance, scaring and progression of interstitial or lung disease.
Lung surfactant	A complex phospholipid substance in the lung that regulates the amount of surface tension of the fluid lining the alveoli. Exogenous lung surfactant from natural and artificial sources is available for treating patients with respiratory distress syndrome. Premature infants often have insufficient amount of this fluid. SYN pulmonary surfactant.
Lung volumes	Lung spirometric measurements, as follows: expiratory reserve volume (ERV), Inspiratory reserve volume (IRV), residual volume (RV), tidal volume (Vt).
Lymph node	Specialized tissue of the lymphatic system where concentrated numbers of white blood cells reside located in bundles throughout the body.
Lymphadenitis	Inflammation and enlargement of lymph nodes as a result of a benign, localized, or systemic infection; enlargement is a clinical indication that a person may have some type of bacterial or viral infection.
Lymphadenopathy	Infected or diseased lymph nodes.
Lymphocyte	A white blood cell, either B-cell or T-cell.
Lymphokine	A soluble chemical released by sensitized lymphocytes on contact with a specific antigen. Lymphokines help effect cellular immunity by stimulating activity of lymphocytes and macrophages.
Lyse	To cause or undergo lysis; to break up, to disintegrate, to effect lysis; a process of disintegration or dissolution (as of cells).
Lysed	Ruptured or broken open.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Maceration	Softening of tissues by the action of a liquid, making it more vulnerable to abrasive injury.
Macrophage	Versatile phagocytic white blood cells, orchestrating much of the immunological activity. Digestion of infectious agents is neat and self-contained. There are slight differences depending where the cell resides: Lung = alveolar macrophages; Liver = kupfer cells; Tissues = histiocytes; Blood = monocytes. SEE also leukocyte.
Macule	A flat skin lesion perceptively different in color from the surrounding tissue.
Mad cow disease	A type of spongiform encephalopathy caused by a prion (infectious protein) that infects cows; so called because the animals were observed to become highly irritable and apprehensive before losing their ability to stand. The human form is new variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (nvCJD) (pronounced Krewt'z - fëldt - Yä käbs). nvCJD can be transferred to other patients from cornea or dura matter transplants, spinal fluid, several ports of the lymphatic system, instruments, an electrode, used on brain or eyes, etc. of CJD patients and other methods with less frequency. CJD is NOT destroyed by normal sterilization.
Magnesium Oxide	A very fine, white, odorless powder added to modified cornstarch to prevent caking in the production of USP absorbable dusting powder.
Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)	A noninvasive diagnostic technique that produces computerized images of internal body tissues and is based on nuclear magnetic resonance of atoms within the body induced by the application of radio waves -- abbreviation MRI.
Mainstem bronchi	Large cartilaginous airways that bifurcate from the trachea at the carina (positioned a bit more to the left) to supply each lung. The right mainstem bronchus is usually shorter, more vertical, and larger in diameter than the left mainstem bronchus. SYN: primary bronchi.
Malabsorption	Impaired intestinal absorption of nutrients.
Malaise	Feeling of general discomfort or uneasiness, an "out of sorts" feeling or "general feeling of unwell", often the first indication of an infection or other disease.
Malnutrition	Poor nourishment resulting either from improper dietary intake or a defect in metabolism that prevents absorption of nutrients.
Mandatory Breath	A breath that is machine triggered and/or cycled. A non-spontaneous breath.
Mandatory Minute Ventilation	(MMV) A method of ventilation that allows the patient to breathe spontaneously with a clinician pre-set minute volume target. If the patient satisfies the preset minute volume threshold the machine remains dormant and continues monitoring exhaled volume. Should the patient fail to reach the targeted minute ventilation the machine delivers clinician prescribed breaths until the pre- set minute volume is satisfied.
Marasmic-Kwashiorkor	Result of chronic starvation combined with a metabolic stress such as sepsis.
Marasmus	Protein-calorie malnutrition resulting from a chronically poor intake of protein, energy, vitamins, and minerals, but usually with retention of appetite and mental alertness.
Mast Cell	Specialized tissue white blood cells rich in vasoactive amines; resemble basophils in form and function. Mast cells carry receptors for IgE antibodies and together, with basophils, participate in immediate type hypersensitivity (Type I) reactions by releasing histamine and other stored mediators on contact with specific allergens their IgE antibodies recognize (e.g. latex protein).
Mastication	The act of chewing.
Maximal voluntary ventilation (MVV)	Maximal volume of air moved by strenuous breathing for a period of 15 seconds. SYN: ventilatory capacity.
Maximum sterile barrier and PICC	CDC recommendation of cap, mask, sterile gown, sterile gloves with a full body coverage, sterile large drape recommended for CVC and PICC insertions and over guidewire replacements.
Maximum sterile precautions	Defined by CDC as including use of a cap, mask, sterile gown, sterile gloves, and sterile full body drape, used for insertion of CVCs (CLs), PICCs, or guidewire exchanges. Also includes use of sterile sleeve to protect pulmonary artery catheters during insertion
Mean Airway Pressure (MAP)	The average airway pressure during one complete ventilatory cycle.
Meatus	A passage or opening. The nasal meatuses are found on the side walls of the nasal cavity between the nasal conchae.
Medial	The mean or average; being or occurring in the middle; extending toward the middle; especially lying or extending toward the median axis of the body; relating to the middle or center; nearer to the median or midsagittal plane.
Median	A medial part (as a vein or nerve); a value in an ordered set of values below and above which there is an equal number of values or which is the arithmetic mean of the two middle values if there is no one middle number; a vertical line that divides the histogram of a frequency distribution into two parts of equal area; a value of a random variable for which all greater values make the cumulative distribution function greater than one half and all lesser values make it less than one half; a line from a vertex of a triangle to the midpoint of the opposite side.
Mediastinitis	Swelling and inflammation of the area between the lungs (mediastinum); in this case an infection. Area contains the heart, large blood vessels, trachea, esophagus, thymus gland, lymph nodes, and connective tissues.
Mediastinum	The space between the two lungs that contains the lower portion of the trachea and the primary bronchi.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Mediators	A general term used to designate substances that incite such reactions as inflammation, smooth muscle contraction and white cell activation.
Medication suspension	Liquid dosage form with solids suspended in liquids; usually required shaking.
Meninges	[<i>sing. meninx</i>]. Membranes. Specifically, the three membranes (from outside inward, <i>dura mater</i> , <i>arachnoid mater</i> , and <i>pia mater</i>) surrounding the brain and spinal cord. SEE arachnoid mater, pia mater.
Meningitis	Inflammation of the meninges.
Metabolic respiratory quotient (RQ)	The number of carbon dioxide molecules produced by the tissues relative to the oxygen molecules consumed by the tissues.
Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)	Methicillin is an antibiotic that is commonly used to treat <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> , a common type of bacteria that is often found in the nose, but can also grow in wounds and other sites of the body. Over time, the many strains of <i>S. aureus</i> have become resistant to methicillin. The drug is no longer effective. The primary way individuals "get" MRSA is by contact (direct or indirect) with a person who either has a wound infection, an infection of the respiratory tract, or who is colonized with the bacteria especially in the hospital (HA MRSA). MRSA are frequent causes of healthcare-associated bloodstream and catheter-related infections. MRSA now composes over 50% of <i>S. aureus</i> infections in U.S. hospitals and varying percentages in different countries. It has also an emerging cause of community-associated (CA MRSA), especially skin and soft tissue infections and necrotizing pneumonia.
Micron	Also referred to as a micrometer, a micron is a metric unit of length = 0.000001 meter = one millionth of a meter (1×10^{-6}) = 0.000039th (39 millionth) of an inch = 1000nm (nanometers). May be represented by the symbol μ or μm ($\mu\text{e}\ddot{u}$).
Micronutrient	Nutrients required by the body in very small quantities such as vitamins and trace elements.
Micropuncture	A puncture made with the aid of a microscope.
Microscopic biofilm	A biofilm that is only a few cells thick and thus is not readily apparent (e.g. as reported in several studies on breast implant capsule contractures).
Midline	An imaginary line that divides the body into right and left halves. The dorsoventral plane along this line is called the midsagittal plane.
Minimum Data Set (MDS)	A set of basic assessment forms developed by the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) to be completed on every resident in a long-term care or sub-acute care facility.
Minute ventilation	The volume of air moved per unit time, calculated as the product of the tidal volume and the respiratory rate (in breaths per minute). SYN: minute volume; total ventilation (VE). SEE lung volumes.
Modified Greene and Vesley Bacterial Filtration Efficiency (BFE)	Provides a practical method of in vivo (wearing) testing of surgical face masks while forcefully speaking specific words in a controlled environment. This technique evaluates the filtration efficiency of face masks against large droplets. The method employs a quantitative measurement using an Andersen Sampler to determine the effectiveness of the mask at containing microorganisms that might contaminate the patient or surrounding area.
Modified Lowry assay	"Modified Lowry", is a test developed by the ASTM (D5712) to use specifically for rubber products. The test method explains how the product should be prepared and extracted prior to adding the traditional Lowry reagents to determine total protein levels.
Modulus	A constant that expresses the ease with which a glove can be stretched. Lower modulus associated with increased comfort during hand manipulations; reduced fatigue.
Monopolar	Relating to or having one pole or charge; relating to a device capable of using one polarization.
Moraxella Catarrhalis	<i>Moraxella Catarrhalis</i> is a gram negative bacteria. Those with chronic diseases such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), diabetes, congestive heart failure, lung cancer, or cerebral vascular disease are more likely to contract this infection.
Morbidity	Term defined as either illness or disease. Morbidity rate is the number of illnesses or cases of disease in a specified population over a given period of time.
Mortality	A fatal outcome. Mortality rate is the number of deaths in a specified population over a given period of time.
Most probable number (MPN) method	A statistical method for estimating the number of bacteria in a sample. MPN method is used most often when the microbes to be counted cannot grow on solid media, a method that would have provided precise values.
Motor	Of or referring to motion. SEE nerve.
Motor nerves	A neuron that passes from the central nervous system or a ganglion toward a muscle and conducts an impulse that causes movement -- called also motoneuron.
MRSA (methicillin-resistant S. aureus)	Strains of <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> that are unaffected by (resistant to) to the antibiotic methicillin. SEE methicillin resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> .
Mucociliary escalator	Clearance mechanism in the airways that moves bronchial mucus upward toward the oropharynx; propulsion of mucus is provided by the rhythmic beating action of cilia, which contact, stretch and push forward bronchial mucus,
Mucositis	Inflammation of a mucous membrane; orally, results in increased oropharyngeal colonization with respiratory pathogens and oral lesions; common causes include: age, medication, chemotherapy, poor oral care or illness.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Mucus/Mucous	Complex fluid composed of water, glycoprotein, carbohydrates, lipids, DNA, and cellular debris. Gel phase - the relatively viscous and elastic layer at the luminal surface of the airways. Sol phase - the thinner, watery layer that contacts the beating cilia of the epithelial lining cells and carries the gel phase. Mucus captures dust debris, bacteria, chemicals by trapping them like fly paper to be swallowed, sneezed, or coughed out for removal. Also provides moisture and physical protection for all mucosal tissues.
Multifidus muscle	Intermediate layer of deepest (transversospinales) muscles of back; origin, from the sacrum, sacroiliac ligament, mammillary processes of the lumbar vertebrae, transverse processes of thoracic vertebrae, and articular processes of last four cervical vertebrae; insertion, into the spinous processes of all the vertebrae up to and including the axis; action, rotates vertebral column; nerve supply, dorsal primary rami of spinal nerves. Syn: musculus multifidus spinae, musculus multifidus TA.
Mural thrombus	Blood clot that is attached to the blood vessel or heart by one side of the clot.
Myalgia	Muscle aches and pains in this course caused by the influenza virus.
Mycobacteria	Bacteria with a thick, waxy coat that makes them more resistant to chemical germicides than other types of vegetative bacteria. Tuberculosis bacillus is a <i>Mycobacterium</i> .
Mycology	The study of fungi (fūn' jī) and the diseases they cause.
Mycoses	Fungal diseases.
Myelin	Whitish, fatty material that covers most long nerve fibers; serves as an insulator and provides protection.
Myocardial infarction (MI or heart attack)	Death of heart tissue that results when an area of the heart does not receive oxygen or becomes ischemic.
N95 filter certification test	NIOSH required test for N95 respirators that measures filter efficiency and penetration of a 0.3 um sodium chloride particle aerosolized at a flow rate of 85 liters per minute, requiring a 95% filtration efficiency. OSHA requires that all respirators be properly fit tested using a quantitative or qualitative fit test when initially assigned to a user, and periodically thereafter. A user seal check should be performed each time a respirator is put on.
N95 or P2 seal test	After donning a disposable respirator, check the seal by cupping the hands over the respirator and exhaling. Feel along the edges to determine if there is any leakage.
N95 respirator	NIOSH requires a respirator to pass the 0.3 micron sodium chloride test at 95 % efficiency to be labeled an N95. The "N" stands for "not resistant to oil penetration". Respirators for use in some industrial applications may require respirators with an "R" (resistant to oil) or "P" (non-penetrated by oil). OSHA requires that a respiratory protection program be developed for the proper use of respirators including written procedures, medical screening, training, and fit testing.
Narcotic	1. <i>adj.</i> ,. pertaining to a substance that produces insensibility or stupor. 2. <i>n.</i> Narcotic drug. Narcotic analgesics, derived from opium or produced synthetically, alter perception of pain; induce euphoria, mood changes, mental clouding, and deep sleep; depress respiration and the cough reflex; constrict the pupils; and cause smooth muscle spasm, decreased peristalsis, emesis, and nausea. Opioid is now the preferred term.
Nares	Opening of the nose. The paired openings to the outside are the anterior nares (or nostrils). The paired openings at the back of the nasal cavity opening to the nasopharynx are the posterior nares.
Nasal cavity	One of two cavities between the floor of the cranium and the roof of the mouth, opening to the nose anteriorly and the nasopharynx posteriorly. Its lining of highly vascularized, ciliated epithelium warms and moistens inhaled air, and traps dust and pathogens on mucus that is then swept toward the pharynx. The nasal septum (ethmoid and vomer) separates the nasal cavities.
Nasoduodenal tube	A nasoenteric tube placed nasally into the duodenum.
Nasoenteric tube	A feeding type that is placed through the nose with its distal end in either the stomach or small intestine.
Nasogastric tube	A nasoenteric tube placed nasally into the stomach.
Nasojejunal tube	A nasoenteric tube placed nasally into the jejunum.
Nasopharynx	The uppermost of the three regions of the throat, extending from the posterior nares to the level of the soft palate.
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)	NIOSH is part of the U.S. federal government's Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). NIOSH is the only federal Institute responsible for conducting research and making recommendations for the prevention of work-related illnesses and injuries. OSHA is the regulatory branch which may elect to incorporate NIOSH findings into enforceable worker safety regulations.
Natural active acquired immunity	Antibodies that are produced by stimulated lymphocytes reacting to microorganisms entering the body.
Natural killer (NK) cell	A type of lymphocyte (T cell) that develops from lymphoid stem cells in the bone marrow and destroys tumor cells and virus-infected cells.
Natural passive acquired immunity	The natural transfer of humoral antibodies, such as across the placenta to the fetus.
Necrosis	Death of the tissue.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Necrotizing fasciitis (NF)	A severe disease caused by <i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> that causes a type of toxic shock syndrome and produces enzymes that destroy proteins and allow the bacteria to invade the human epithelial cells; also referred to as “flesh-eating” bacteria and group A, beta-hemolytic streptococcus. The infection moves along the fascia (membrane covering of the body under the skin, as well as the various muscle groups); may also be caused by <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> , <i>vibriovulnificus</i> , <i>clostridium perfringens</i> , and <i>Bacteriodes fragilis</i> .
Needleless Connectors	Connectors that utilize a self-adhering slit or a modified leur-lock at the injection port to reduce the risk of healthcare provider needle sticks.
Neointima	Regenerative new tissue lining the inner most surface (e.g. vessel lining) after stent placement.
Neonatal infection	Infection occurring in the first 28 days of life.
Neoplasm	Any type of new or abnormal growth due to uninhibited cell growth; it may be benign, premalignant, or malignant.
Nerve	A cord made up of nerve fibers (axons and/or dendrites) or bundles of nerve fibers outside the central nervous system, and connecting the central nervous system to various parts of the body.
Nerve block	Chemical interruption of a nerve pathway, effected by injecting a local anesthetic into the nerve.
Neuralgia	Nerve pain; pain of a severe, throbbing, or stabbing nature along the course or distribution of a nerve. SYN neurodynia.
Neuraminidase	A protein enzyme on the surface of influenza viruses that enables the virus to bud through the surface of the infected cell. Found on all influenza viruses, it is the N in the designation H1N1, H3N2, and H5N1. Nine different neuraminidases have been found on influenza viruses in nature.
Neurodynia	Nerve pain; pain of a severe, throbbing, or stabbing nature along the course or distribution of a nerve. SYN neuralgia.
Neurologist	One specializing in the diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the neuromuscular system: the central, peripheral, and autonomic nervous systems, the neuromuscular junction, and muscle.
Neurolysis	Destruction of nerve tissue; freeing of a nerve from inflammatory adhesions.
Neurons	Cells that transmit nerve impulses (messages) from one part of the body to another.
Neuropathic Pain	Pain that results from direct stimulation of the myelin or nervous tissue of the peripheral or central nervous system (except for sensitized C fibers), generally felt as burning or tingling and often occurring in an area of sensory loss. It is seen commonly in patients with uncontrolled diabetes. Clinical examples: peripheral neuropathy, limb amputation, herpetic neuralgia.
Neuropathy	A disturbance of function or pathological change in a nerve: in one nerve, mononeuropathy; in several nerves, mononeuropathy multiplex; if diffuse and bilateral, polyneuropathy.
Neurotomy	Operative division of a nerve.
Neurotransmitters	Chemicals that help an impulse to cross the synapse or that stop the impulse.
Neutropenia	An abnormal decrease in the number of neutrophils circulating in the circulatory system. Note: the suffix -penia means too low.
Neutrophils	A phagocytic granulocyte; also referred to as polymorphonuclear leukocyte (PMN), or our “minute man” of defense. They are the first white blood cells (WBCs) to the site of infection, inflammation, injury. They engulf, destroy and digest infectious agents. PMNs are “sloppy,” leaking the digestive enzymes and oxidative burst into the surrounding tissues and injuring the host (person).
NFPA 702-1980	A much more stringent test than the CPSC-1610, this is the National Fire Protection Association’s test for determining the rate of flame spread across a fabric. In this test, a flame is held at the edge of the test sample for 20 seconds in an ambient oxygen environment in an attempt to ignite the material; cited by the FDA as a recognized test.
Nidus	A seed or place from which things start. Most notably the starting point of an infection or initiation of a granuloma or adhesion.
Nissen Fundoplication	Suture of the fundus of the stomach around the esophagus to prevent reflux in repair of hiatal hernia.
Nitrogen balance	The state of the body in regard to the rate of protein intake and protein utilization.
NO ₂	Nitrous oxide.
Nociception	The neural process of encoding noxious stimuli.
Nociceptive	Capable of appreciation or transmission of pain; of, induced by, or responding to a nociceptive (painful, injurious) stimulus.
Nociceptor	Pertaining to a neural receptor for painful stimuli.
Nociceptors	Receptors that transmit pain sensation.
Non-bacterial thrombolytic	Foreign debris (lint, powder, hair, suture fragment, dust, air bubbles, or chemical constituent (endotoxin, snake
Non-enzymatic detergents	Detergents which do not contain enzymes.
Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma	Cancer of the lymphoid tissue which includes the lymph nodes, spleen and other organs of the immune system.
Noninvasive positive pressure ventilation (NPPV)	Noninvasive positive pressure ventilation delivered without tracheostomy or endotracheal tube (e.g. positive pressure mask delivery).
Non-lipid viruses	Considered more resistant to inactivation than lipid viruses. Also called non-enveloped or hydrophilic viruses.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Nonopioid	A drug that is not an opioid. Examples include acetaminophen and nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), such as aspirin and ibuprofen.
Nonopioid Analgesic	An analgesic that acts primarily at the periphery, does not produce tolerance or dependence, and does not alter the patient's perception; used for mild to moderate pain.
Non-pathogen	A microbe that does not generally cause disease or infection, but may in opportunistic circumstances.
Non-pyrogenic	Non-fever causing. Reflects low levels of endotoxins (lipopolysaccharides) which, when elevated, cause fever, inflammation, endotoxic shock and elicit micro-thrombi formation (DIC). SEE endotoxin.
Nonspecific host defense	Host defenses that protect the body against any type of pathogen, regardless of the species or lack of previous exposure. (Examples include: complement cascade, fever (sequesters iron), neutrophils, etc.).
Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)	NSAIDs block the COX enzymes and reduce prostaglandins throughout the body. As a consequence, ongoing inflammation, pain, and fever are reduced. Since the prostaglandins that protect the stomach and support platelets and blood clotting are also reduced, NSAIDs can cause ulcers in the stomach and promote bleeding. NSAIDs are used primarily to treat inflammation, mild to moderate pain, and fever.
Non-tunneled Central Venous Catheters	Type of catheter used for venous access; short term, inserted into central veins, subclavian, internal jugular or femoral vein, major risk for CLABSI.
Non-Tunneled, non-cuffed	The catheter is inserted directly into the target blood vessel from the insertion site. It is not tunneled through the subcutaneous tissues for stabilization, nor does it possess an anchoring cuff. A non-tunneled, non-cuffed central line catheter increases the risk of infection
Nonwoven	Fabric construction that does not involve the inter-weaving of fibers. SYN. Single use fabrics, disposable fabrics.
Normothermia	Normal body temperature [96.8-104°F (36-38°C)] that does not interfere with normal body function; also known as euthermia.
Nosocomial	Relating to a hospital OR denoting a new disorder (not the patient's original condition) associated with being treated in a hospital (or other healthcare facility), such as a hospital-acquired infection (HAI).
Nosocomial infection	Applies to any infection acquired by a patient while under medical care that was not present or incubating at the time the patient was admitted
Nosocomial pneumonia	Also known as hospital-associated pneumonia (HAP); any case of pneumonia that starts at least 48 hours after admission into an acute healthcare facility.
Noxious Stimulus	A stimulus that is damaging or threatens damage to normal tissues.
Nutrients	Food or any substance that nourishes the body - protein, carbohydrate, fat, vitamins, minerals, and water.
Nutrition assessment	A comprehensive evaluation of factors that influence or reflect nutrition status; its tools include histories, physical examinations, anthropometric measures, and biochemical analysis.
Obligue	Neither perpendicular nor parallel being on an incline; situated obliquely and having one end not inserted on bone.
Obstructive disease	Pulmonary disease marked by pathophysiologic changes that limit expiratory flow at relatively low flowrates (e.g., asthma, chronic bronchitis, emphysema, cystic fibrosis).
Obturator	A structure that blocks an opening either in the body or an instrument.
Occlusion	Tube becomes clogged and no longer functions properly.
Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)	OSHA is a government agency tasked with maintaining a safe and healthy work environment with the authority for enforcement.
Odontoid process	A strong tooth-like process projecting upward from the body of the axis, or epistropheus, around which the atlas rotates. Syn: odontoid process, dens 2 TA.
Oley Foundation	Established in 1983, the Oley Foundation for Home Parenteral & Enteral Nutrition conducts research and education to provide a support network for those sustained on home nutrition support therapies. Great resource for reps, healthcare, patients; www.oley.org.
Oligoanalgesia	Underuse of analgesics in the face of valid indications. The failure to recognize or properly treat pain.
Oncologist	A doctor qualified in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer.
One-step clean and disinfection	Also known as disinfectant cleaners or similar: EPA approved disinfectant that is capable of cleaning and disinfecting non-critical surfaces or items all-in-one-step. Pre-cleaning to remove organics is not required. Note: EPA does not allow this claim being used for <i>C. difficile</i> by any product for fear that the soiling of diarrhea may not be adequately removed for the disinfectant to be fully effective.
Onychomycosis	Fungal infection of the nail.
Open system (Digestive health)	Opposite of closed system. An enteral formula that is poured into a container every few hours and administered to a patient. Hang times vary, but the general guideline is not to hang an open system longer than 4 hours due to risk of bacterial contamination.
Oepn Suction (mechanical respiration)	Suctioning of the endotracheal or trachestomy tube while disconnecting the ventilator; lose oxygen saturation and spread bacteria.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Opioid	Pertaining to natural and synthetic chemicals that have opium-like effects similar to morphine, though they are not derived from opium. Examples include endorphins or enkephalins produced by body tissues or synthetic methadone. Morphine and related drugs are often included in this category since the term narcotic has lost its original meaning.
Opioid Analgesic	An analgesic that acts on the central nervous system and alters the patient's perception; more often used for severe pain.
Opportunistic infection	An infection caused by an organism that does not normally cause disease, but can when the person (host) becomes vulnerable (diabetes, HIV, surgery); opportunistic pathogen.
Organ / Space SSI	Those surgical site infections involving deep soft tissues (e.g. fascial and muscle layers) and/or organs and space opened or manipulated during surgery.
Organic soiling	In the context of hospital surface disinfection, applies to the presence of organic substances such as blood, mucus, feces, urine and vomit, etc., that can physically deter disinfectants or, in many cases, cause their rapid inactivation. When using a disinfectant vulnerable to inactivation by organic substances, a cleaning agent must be used before disinfection.
Oroduodenal tube	An oroenteric tube placed through the mouth into the duodenum.
Oroenteric tube	A feeding tube that is placed through the mouth with its distal end in either the stomach or small intestine.
Orogastric tube	An oroenteric tube placed through the mouth into the stomach.
Orojejunal tube	An oroenteric tube placed through the mouth into the jejunum.
Oropharyngeal	Pertains to the mouth and back of the throat.
Oropharynx	The part of the pharynx between the soft palate and the upper edge of the epiglottis. SEE also ciliary transport mechanism, mucociliary escalator.
Osmolality	The concentration of a solution, measured in milliosmoles (mOsm)/1000 grams of solution; expresses number of particles per volume of solute (solution).
Osteomyelitis	A chronic infection of the bone marrow and bone tissue often caused by <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> .
Osteophyte	A pathological bony outgrowth or protuberance.
Ostomy	An artificial opening or stoma especially into a hollow organ or canal. Also ostium.
Outbreak	Synonymous with epidemic, but a term often preferred when dealing with the public; does not evoke the same fear response as the term epidemic.
Outcome indicator	An instrument that looks at the results of practitioner's activities, including complications, adverse events, short-term results of specific procedures and treatments, and long-term status of patient's health and functioning.
Overfeeding	A form of malnutrition in that it provides excessive nutriture (food) to a person sufficient to cause disease or complication of health; also, volume overflow of the stomach that can lead to reflux into the esophagus potentially leading to aspiration and VAP.
Oxygen (O ₂)	Oxygen. Normal percentage in air is 21%.
Oxygen consumption (V _{O₂})	The amount of oxygen utilized by the tissues, calculated as the difference between systemic oxygen delivery and
Oxyhemoglobin	An unstable compound formed by the combination of hemoglobin and oxygen. Hemoglobin with oxygen is found in arterial blood and is the oxygen carrier to the body tissue.
Oxyhemoglobin dissociation curve	A curve that shows the relationship between the partial pressure of oxygen and the percentage of saturation of hemoglobin with oxygen. Left shift - factors that shift the curve to the left include a decrease in temperature (hence
Ozone	An extremely reactive gas (O ₃) that is produced by the interaction of oxygen and an energy source (UV light, x-ray machine, generators, laboratory Hepa filter hoods, etc.). Ozone exposure can lead to deterioration of latex and most synthetic gloves.
Pain	An unpleasant sensation caused by noxious stimulation of the sensory nerve endings. It is a subjective feeling and an individual response to the cause.
Pain and Suffering (in law)	An element in a claim for damages that allows recovery for the mental and physical pain, suffering, distress, and trauma that an individual has endured as a result of injury.
Pain Assessment	An evaluation of the reported pain and the factors that alleviate or exacerbate it, as well as the response of treatment to pain.
Pain Intervention	The attempt to relieve pain by various measures, such as administration of NSAIDs and opiates. The psychologic effects of pain must be considered. Effective pain intervention depends on proper evaluation of the types of pain the patient is experiencing, the physical and psychologic origins of the pain, and the behavioral patterns commonly associated with different kinds of pain.
Pain reflex	Apnea caused by sudden pain.
Pain Threshold	The point at which a stimulus, usually one associated with pressure or temperature, activates pain receptors and produces a sensation of pain. Individuals with low pain thresholds experience pain much sooner and faster than those with higher thresholds; individuals' reactions to stimulation of pain receptors vary.
Pain Tolerance Level	The greatest level of pain which a subject is prepared to tolerate. As with the pain threshold, the pain tolerance level is the subjective experience of the individual.
Palliative	For relief or reduction of symptoms of a disease; does not produce a cure.
Pandemic	An epidemic that involves large geographical areas or several continents.

Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education

PaO ₂	Arterial oxygen tension.
Papillae	Small elevated protuberances on the tongue.
Papules	Small circumscribed, solid, elevated bumps on the skin.
Parachlorometaxylenol (PCMX)	Skin preparation that disrupts cell walls and inactivates cell enzymes. Action is fairly rapid, residual lasts a few hours. However, it is less effective than CHG or iodophors in reducing microbial flora. It is minimally inhibited by organic matter, active against gram-negative microorganisms, viruses, and tuberculi bacilli - Not spores.
Paranasal sinuses	Any of the anterior accessory nasal sinuses (frontal, ethmoidal, sphenoidal, and maxillary) that open into the nasal cavities. All are lined with a ciliated mucous membrane continuous with that of the nasal cavities. Blocking their drainage can result in sinus infections (e.g. nasogastric tubes).
Parasympathetic division	Functionally opposes the sympathetic division of the ANS; returns organ function to baseline levels during "rest and relaxation" conditions (e.g., decreased gastrointestinal activity).
Parasympathetic nervous system	The part of the autonomic nervous system that contains chiefly cholinergic fibers. tends to: induce secretion, increase the tone and contractility of smooth muscle, slow the heart rate, consists of: a cranial part made up of preganglionic fibers leaving and passing the midbrain by the oculomotor nerves and the hindbrain by the facial, glossopharyngeal, vagus, and accessory nerves and passing to the ciliary, sphenopalatine, submandibular, and otic ganglia of the head or to ganglionated plexuses of the thorax and abdomen and postganglionic fibers passing from these ganglia to end organs of the head and upper trunk. - A sacral part made up of preganglionic fibers emerging and passing in the sacral nerves and passing to ganglionated plexuses of the lower trunk and postganglionic fibers passing from these plexuses chiefly to the viscera of the lower abdomen and the external genital organs. - Called also: parasympathetic system, autonomic division of nervous system, parasympathetic part of autonomic division of peripheral nervous system.
Parenchyma	The essential parts of an organ that constitute its function. In contrast to its framework, or interstitium. e.g. the parenchyma of the lung is composed of the alveoli. SEE interstitium.
Parenteral	By some other means than through the GI tract (e.g., delivery substances through intravenous, subcutaneous, intramuscular).
Parenteral Feeding	Providing nourishment through a route that bypasses the GI tract.
Parenteral nutrition (PN)	The administration of nutrients by a route other than the gastrointestinal tract, such as subcutaneously, intravenously, intramuscularly, or intradermally.
Paresthesia	A subjective sensation, experienced as numbness, tingling, or "pins and needles." Paresthesia induced by contacting a nerve with a needle is often used to indicate appropriate needle placement for injection of local anesthetic.
PARS	Interarticular part between joints.
Partial Pressure	The pressure exerted by an individual gas in a mixture of gases; partial pressure of a gas is the product of the dry gas fraction and the barometric pressure of the mixture. SYN: tension (PGAS).
Particle Filtration Efficiency (PFE)	Measures the filtration efficiency of a respirator against small dry particles of a specific size, usually 0.1 micron. The filtration efficiency is calculated by comparing the results of the test samples to the results of control counts without a respirator in place. (Reference ASTM F 2299) A face mask is considered to be "sub-micron filtering" if the PFE is greater than or equal to 98% as referenced in ASTM F 2100.
Parts per million (ppm)	Common measurement for concentrations by volume of trace contaminant gases in the air (or chemicals in a liquid); 1 volume of contaminated gas per 1 million volumes of contaminated air or 1¢ in \$10,000.00 both equal 1 ppm. Parts per million = µg/mL or mg/L.
Passive acquired immunity	Antibodies formed in one person are transferred to another to provide temporary protection.
Passive carrier	Human carrier who harbors the pathogen without ever having had the disease.
Patent ductus arteriosus (PDA)	The pre-birth vessel connecting the pulmonary artery with the descending aorta fails to close and must be surgically corrected.
Pathogen reservoirs	A supply of pathogens available for transmission.
Pathogenicity	The ability of microorganisms to induce disease.
Pathogens	Microorganisms (bacteria, fungi, virus, protozoa, etc.) that cause disease in animals, plants or people. The microorganism causing the infection. Most likely central line-associated blood stream infection (CLABSI) pathogens are coagulase negative staphylococci, <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> , enterococci, and <i>Candida</i> spp. Approximately 20% of the pathogens are gram negative bacilli. Antibiotic resistance is a problem, particularly in ICU acquired CLABSI. MRSA is significant, though declining. VRE is present. Resistance is increasing in <i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> , <i>E. coli</i> , <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> and <i>Candida</i> spp.
Patient Controlled Analgesia (PCA)	PCA is a method by which patients control the amount of analgesia they receive. There are a number of different PCA systems. In the classic PCA system, the patient receives a preset dose of morphine by pressing a button on a computerized pump that is connected to an IV catheter. With PCA, the patient may receive a small continuous flow of morphine and add more morphine as needed to provide a more constant level of comfort. Studies have shown that patients using PCA often use less morphine than do patients who are not PCA. In a very different type of PCA system, the pain reliever fentanyl (Duragesic) is delivered through the skin, eliminating the need for an IV and for programming a pump.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

PB1-F2 protein	Enhances cell death by attacking the mitochondrial membrane thus conveying high virulence for those influenza A virus strains that possess it (ex 1918-H1N1).
Peak Airway Pressure (PAP)	(PAP/PIP) The maximum airway pressure recorded during an inspiratory cycle. This maximum or extreme pressure is usually actualized at the end of inspiration.
Pedicle, lumbar	A basal attachment: as the basal part of each side of the neural arch of a vertebra connecting the laminae with the centrum.
Pelvic plexus	Location: side of rectum and bladder. Serves viscera of pelvis. Contains autonomic elements.
-penia	Suffix meaning below normal. (e.g. neutropenia - low neutrophil count.)
Peracetic acid – hydrogen peroxide blend	As a surface disinfectant is effective against vegetative bacteria, fungi, enveloped and non-enveloped viruses, <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> and bacterial spores. They are only mildly affected by organic substances. The
Peracetic acid/Hydrogen peroxide blend with surfactant stabilizer and corrosion inhibitors	Good efficacy against Gram (+) and Gram (-) bacteria, enveloped and non-enveloped viruses, fungi, Mycobacteria and spores. EPA registered version is one-step disinfectant-cleaner pre-saturated wipe. EPA approved for <i>C. difficile</i> spores. If corrosion-inhibitor incorporated, non-corrosive to metals, plastics & varnish. No residue. Not (or minimally) affected by environmental factors (EPA cleared 5% soiling, 50% blood). Efficacy speed: Very Rapid. Product sold aspre-saturated wipes and liquid formats. If liquid version is purchased, active agents could bind onto cellulose in cotton or paper. Use non-binding polypropylene to preserve level of efficacy. This is also true for bleach, hydrogen peroxide and Quats.
Percutaneous	Performed through the skin.
Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy	The creation of a new opening in the stomach through the skin, accomplished by puncturing the abdominal wall after the stomach has been distended by endoscopy. Through the hole, a PEG tube is placed to introduce nutrition.
Perforated colon	A complete penetration of the wall of the large intestine, spilling the contents into the abdominal cavity. Bacteria and potential toxins (e.g., <i>C. difficile</i> toxins) are released into the site leading to peritonitis. Perforation is a surgical emergency and is one of the most serious consequences of toxic megacolon.
Perfusion	The rate of blood flow per given mass of tissue.
Perfusion-limited gas exchange	Gas exchange at the alveolar-capillary membrane that is determined by the rate of movement of blood through the pulmonary capillaries, rather than the rate of diffusion of gas across the membrane.
Pericardial tamponade	An emergency condition in which fluid accumulates in the pericardium. During central line insertion, the guidewire or catheter may puncture through the vena cava, leaking blood into the pericardium and exert pressure around the heart. The pressure decreases stroke volume and cardiac arrest usually follows.
Peri-natal infection	Infection acquired during period from shortly before to shortly after birth.
Periodontitis	Untreated gingivitis that has become a chronic infection with inflammation. Can seed the bloodstream and reach heart valve or surgical site.
Peripheral	Located at, or pertaining to, the periphery, which is the part of the body “away from” the center. E.g., the <i>peripheral nervous system</i> , as opposed to <i>central nervous system</i> , consists of all the nerves, nerve cords, ganglia, and nerve plexuses outside the brain and spinal cord.
Peripheral Nervous System	The motor and sensory nerves and ganglia outside the brain and spinal cord. The system consists of 12 pairs of cranial nerves, 31 pairs of spinal nerves, and their various branches in body organs.
Peripheral nervous system (PNS)	Nerve cells outside the brain and spinal cord.
Peripheral parenteral nutrition (PPN)	Nutrients delivered intravenously into a peripheral vein usually the hand or forearm.
Peripheral Venous Catheters	Type of catheter used for venous access; short term, usually inserted in veins of forearm or hand, low risk for catheter-related blood stream infection.
Peripherally Inserted Central Venous Catheters	Type of catheter used for venous access; short to mid term, inserted into basilica, cephalic or brachial veins and enter the superior vena cava, medium risk for catheter-related blood stream infection.
Peristalsis	The involuntary rhythmic movement of smooth muscle that pushes food through the digestive tract or urine through the ureters by wave action of a progressive series of contraction and relaxation.
Peritoneal cavity	The abdominal cavity, which is lined by the peritoneum.
Peritoneum	The smooth transparent serous membrane (sac), consisting of mesothelium and a thin layer of irregular connective tissue, that lines the abdomen cavity and covers most of the viscera contained therein, and consists of an outer layer (peritoneal [or greater] sac) closely adherent to the walls of the abdomen and an inner layer (omental bursa [lesser sac] connected by the epiploic foramen) that folds to invest the viscera.
Peritonitis	Inflammation of the serous membrane lining the walls of the abdominal and pelvic cavities.
Peritubular	Being adjacent to or surrounding a tube.
Permeation	Resistance to breakthrough under continuous contact of the material by the test chemical; movement of chemical through protective clothing material on a molecular level.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Personal protective equipment (PPE)	Equipment and apparel worn to protect skin and mucosal tissues from harm. In healthcare, the directions on when, what, and where are specified in the CDC Isolation and Precautions Guideline, WHO Isolation Guidelines, Infection Specific Guidelines, and Country Specific Guidelines.
pH (cleaning and disinfection)	The measure of hydroxyl (OH ⁻) or hydrogen (H ⁺) ions in a solution. Acids contain varying levels of hydrogen ions, bases contain hydroxyl ions. A pH of 7 is neutral, but for cleaning purposes, a pH of 5-9 is considered to be in the "neutral" range. Below 5 is acidic and greater than 9 is alkaline.
Phagocytic	Characteristic of ingesting microorganisms, foreign debris, possessed by macrophages and neutrophils (white blood cells). (Pac Man)
Phagocytosis	An important body defense mechanism against infection and foreign particulates; the engulfing and usually the destruction of particulate matter by phagocytes and leukocytes such as polymorphonuclear leukocytes (PMLs).
Pharyngitis	An acute streptococcal infection of the throat that causes fever, chronic pain, difficulty swallowing, and inflammation of the tonsils and pharynx; also known as strep throat.
Pharynx	A musculomembranous tube extending from the base of the skull to the level of the sixth cervical vertebra, where it becomes continuous with the esophagus. It consists of an upper (nasopharynx), middle (oropharynx), and lower
Phenolic Compounds	Carbolic acid compounds used for disinfection. Good activity against Gram (+) and fungi; fair activity against Gram (-) bacteria and enveloped viruses; poor or no activity against non-enveloped viruses, <i>Mycobacteria</i> and bacterial spores. Leaves a residue that is difficult to rinse off as phenols are not water soluble. Cannot be used in neonatal or pediatric ICU or have any infant contact due to toxic residue. No food contact. Corrosive to some rubber and plastics. Efficacy speed: Medium
Phlebitis	Inflammation of the walls of a vein caused by physical injury, chemical irritation or infection. May cause or be caused by a blood clot (thrombophlebitis)
Physiatrist	A physician who specializes in physical medicine and rehabilitation.
Physical Dependence	Substance dependence in which there is evidence of tolerance, withdrawal, or both.
Physiologic dead space ventilation	The total amount of wasted ventilation in the lungs, composed of ventilation of (1) the anatomical dead space and (2) the alveolar dead space (i.e., excessive ventilation of alveoli that are not adequately perfused).
Pia mater	Inner most layer of the meninges. Specifically, the three membranes (from outside inward, dura mater, arachnoid mater, and pia mater) surrounding the brain and spinal cord. SEE meninges.
"Pig Tails"	A term sometimes used to refer to the distal portion of multiple lumens that branch out from a single vascular access catheter (ex. pulmonary artery monitoring catheter).
"Piggyback" systems	Secondary intermittent infusions delivered through a port on primary infusion set.
Pinch off syndrome	This relates to kinking and/or fragmentation of a central venous catheter by chronic compression from adjacent anatomical structures.
Plasma	The yellowish-straw-colored fluid, portion of the circulatory system in which the blood cells circulate. Contains clotting factors. If the plasma is clotted the residual non-clotted fluid is the serum.
Plasma cell	B cell (B lymphocyte) may differentiate into an antibody producing "factory" that produces specific antibodies to specific microorganisms with which it comes in contact.
Plate count	The most frequently used method of measuring a bacterial population on a nutritious (blood or broth infused) solidified agar that allows you to spread the sample out, incubate the plate, and count the subsequent colonies. One discrete colony represents the progeny from one distinct bacteria that was present in the patient sample or other source.
Plethysmography	Measurement of the volume change of an organ. e.g. the lungs.
Pleural cavity	Lines the thoracic cavity and covers the lungs. It contains pleural fluid, the serous fluid that prevents friction. SYN: pleural space; intrapleural space.
Pleural fluid	A monolayer of viscous, lubricating fluid that occupies the pleural space to reduce friction during lung expansion/contraction. The fluid is derived from interstitial fluid and contains tissue proteins, which give it a slippery, mucoid consistency.
Pleurisy	Inflammation of the pleura, usually resulting from infection, trauma, or tumor.
Plexus	A network of nerves or blood vessels. Some examples of nerve plexuses include: brachial, cervical, celiac, hypogastric, lumbar, and pelvic. See individual terms for complete definitions.
Pneumococcal pneumonia	A bacterial pneumonia caused by <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> that form cell pairs surrounded by a dense capsule, making the pathogen resistant to phagocytosis; symptoms include high fever, difficulty in breathing, and chest pain; potential to progress to meningitis.
Pneumocystis jirovecii carinii pneumonia (PCP)	Usually a secondary infection in debilitated patients - often HIV-AIDS. Old name: <i>Pneumocystitis carinii</i>
Pneumonia	An acute respiratory infection of the lung tissues and alveolar spaces, characterized by a collection of fluid within the lungs; caused by a variety of pathogens, including bacteria, fungi, protozoa, and viruses. Nosocomial <i>pneumonia</i> is acquired in the healthcare setting. Ventilator-associated <i>pneumonia</i> is a subset of nosocomial or healthcare associated <i>pneumonia</i> (HAI).
Pneumothorax	Collapse of the lung.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Pocket Infection	Purulent fluid in the subcutaneous pocket of a totally implanted intravascular catheter that might or might not be associated with spontaneous rupture and drainage or necrosis of the overlying skin, in the absence of concomitant blood stream infection.
Polarized Light	A technique of illumination in the microscopic assessment of a specimen. It is most commonly used on birefringent samples where the polarized light interacts strongly with the sample, generating a strong contrast with the background.
Polymicrobial Ointment	An ointment which contains several antibiotics.
Poor scar formation	Can have several different characteristics including excessive scar tissue (aesthetics), reduced scar strength and reduced elasticity.
Portal circulation	The circulation of blood through larger vessels from the capillaries of one organ to those of another specifically from the gastrointestinal tract (GI) and spleen to the portal vein in the liver.
Positive End Expiratory Pressure (PEEP)	The application and maintenance of supra- atmospheric or positive airway pressure through the expiratory phase of a mechanical breath. The application of PEEP will increase both peak and mean airway pressures as well as the functional reserve capacity. PEEP is primarily utilized to increase the PaO ₂ , maintain alveolar integrity and facilitate patient triggering.
Posterior	Denotes the back surface of the body. Often used to indicate the position of one structure relative to another, i.e., nearer the back of the body.
Posterior longitudinal ligament	The thick, strong ligament attached to the dorsal surfaces of the vertebral bodies. It extends from the occipital bone to the coccyx, and forms the ventral limit of the spinal canal.
Postnatal (postpartum) infection	Infection acquired after birth.
Powder	A direct and indirect hazard; functions as an abrasive particle, immunological activator, transporter of chemicals, proteins and microorganisms. Powder lowers the threshold for acquiring an infection. It also interferes with wound healing and increases the risk for incremental complications in OR and Post-OP care. On surgical gloves, powder is composed of a uniquely cross-linked cornstarch (USP absorbable dusting powder). Cross-linking is performed with oxychlorhydridrin or phosphorus oxichloride.
Practice guideline	Systematically developed statement to assist practitioner and patient decisions about appropriate healthcare for specific circumstances. Statements suggesting the proper indications for doing a procedure or treatment or the proper management for specific clinical problems.
Prefilled containers	Commercially available feeding bags that are filled with formula at the manufacturing site and then spiked at the bedside with an administration set.
Pressure Necrosis	Skin redness, irritation, ulcer and/or tissue necrosis caused by the pressure induced ischemia with lack of local tissue oxygen, subsequent friction and death of the tissue (e.g., bed sores, naso gastric injury to the nasal tissues, sores caused by heating sources, pressure).
Pressure Support Ventilation (PSV)	A method of augmented spontaneous ventilation that is flow, pressure or time cycled pressure limited and patient triggered. A form of spontaneous ventilation where flow is delivered to the airway up to a clinician pre- set pressure limit and continued until the machine senses either a drop in inspiratory flow beyond a preset threshold, excessive inspiratory pressure or prolonged inspiratory time. In PSV the patient determines the inspiratory rate, time, volume and flow. PSV can be employed as a mode of mechanical ventilation or in the SIMV mode.
Pressure ulcers	Lesions caused by unrelieved pressure that results in damage to underlying tissue (e.g., decubitus ulcers, pressure sores, or bedsores).
Prevalence	The number of events, such as CLABSIs, in a given population (such as an ICU unit, or hospital facility) at a designated time
Primary Bloodstream Infection (BSI)	The major site of infection is a bloodstream infection and the specific site is either laboratory confirmed BSI or clinical sepsis. For example, a patient with leukemia with a vascular catheter has two positive blood cultures with coagulase negative staphylococci. Even if there are clinical signs and symptoms of localized infection at the vascular access site, but no other infection can be found, the infection is considered a primary bloodstream infection. Also, when a vascular access device is present and no other infection site is evident, then the BSI is considered a primary BSI regardless of whether there are localized signs of infection at the vascular access site.
Prions	Transmissible pathogenic agents that cause a variety of neurodegenerative diseases of humans and animals, including Scrapies in sheep and goats, bovine spongiform encephalopathy in cattle, and Kuru and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in humans. They are unlike any other infectious pathogens because they are composed of abnormal conformational isoforms of a normal cellular protein, and referred to as prion protein (PrP). Prions are extremely resistant to inactivation by sterilization processes and disinfecting agents.
Procedure mask	According to Kimberly-Clark: A procedure mask is a mask with earloops to secure it to the face of the wearer. There is no OFFICIAL definition.
Process	A bony projection.
Prone	Lying with the face and abdomen downward.
Propagated source outbreak	An outbreak which continues over time due to the person-to-person spread. Communicable.
Prophylaxis	Prevention of disease or of a process that can lead to disease. e.g. prophylactic antibiotics before surgery.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Proprioceptive	Activated by, relating to, or being stimuli arising within the organism; capable of receiving stimuli originating in muscles, tendons, and other internal tissues.
Proprioceptor	Sensory nerve ending, such as those located in muscles, tendons, joints, and the inner ear, that are sensitive to body position and movement. Proprioceptors provide awareness of posture, position, and body orientation in space without visual clues.
Prospective study	Individuals are identified with a common risk factor and followed forward in time to identify potential outcomes (e.g., infection) as opposed to retrospective where data is gleaned from historic cases/studies.
Prostaglandin (PG)	One of a number of hormone-like substances that participate in a wide range of body functions such as the contraction and relaxation of smooth muscle, the dilation and constriction of blood vessels, control of blood pressure and modulation of inflammation and pain. Prostaglandins are derived from a chemical called arachidonic acid.
Protease	An enzyme that breaks down proteins. Present on standard gloves to varying levels, additional processing is required for its removal. Critical contaminate for molecular laboratories. Used in cleaning solutions. Also, an enzyme that might be given with food to aid in protein digestion.
Protein content (food)	In food content, protein is critical for proper healing and functioning of the body.
Protein content (medical products)	With regard to natural rubber latex products, proteins may elicit Type I, immediate type hypersensitivity, by causing IgE antibodies to be made (that attach to mast cells) and will recognize and react with them in subsequent exposures. Such proteins are referred to as natural rubber latex (NRL) allergenic proteins. Repeated exposure to the protein allergens through dermal, mucosal, pulmonary or invasive routes, asymptotically increases the number of sensitized mast and basophil cells until a clinical threshold is reached. Once this critical threshold is attained, symptoms may include urticaria, rhinitis, dyspnea, abdominal cramps, headache, hypotension, tachycardia, and potential anaphylaxis. Allergenic protein can cause IgE antibodies to be formed (Type I). Medical products lower in protein content reduce the risk of developing a Type I hypersensitivity (e.g., gloves, catheters) as the probability of containing NRL allegenic proteins is reduced.
Protein-energy malnutrition (PEM)	A deficiency of protein and food energy; the world's most widespread malnutrition problem.
Proteins	Any of a class of naturally occurring complex combinations of amino acids (containing carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, usually sulfur, occasionally phosphorus) that are essential constituents of all living cells, being responsible for growth and maintenance of all tissue, and the essential nitrogenous constituents of the food of animals; some individuals mount an excessive immunological response (allergy) when exposed to specific protein allergens to which they have developed a Type I hypersensitivity. (e.g. latex protein allergens.)
Proton pump inhibitors	Are medications that stop the stomach's acid pump. Examples are omeprazole (Prilosec), lansoprazole (Prevacid), and rabeprazole (Aciphex). These drugs may be used for gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), and peptic ulcer disease. The use of these drugs has been associated with an increase in <i>C. difficile</i> infections as the reduction in acid allows the vegetative <i>C. difficile</i> to survive and reach the intestines. Normal stomach acids destroy the vegetative forms, but have no affect on the spore form.
Proximal	Nearest to the trunk, midline or point of origin.
Pseudoaneurysm	The dilation of an artery due to disruption of the wall, but the dilatation doesn't contain all 3 layers of an artery.
Pseudomembrane	A false membrane composed of the debris of ruptured intestinal cells, dead white blood cells and mucous that overlays affected areas of the colon and may affect the ileum as in severe <i>C. difficile</i> infections.
Pseudomonas aeruginosa	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> is widely distributed in soil, water, sewage and plants, and is a common human intestinal bacterium. It also causes disease in humans, certain animals, insects and plants. Devastating infection of burn patients. Likes moist environments.
Psoriasis	A chronic, non-contagious, hereditary disease characterized by inflamed lesions covered with silvery-white scabs of dead skin affecting over 4 million Americans. Plaques often colonized by bacteria.
Psychosocial pressures	In a pandemic or quarantine situation refers to those inner feelings of guilt, ethical conflict, frustration and anger that can occur due to long hours, an overwhelming number of patients, high mortality, quarantine conditions, family responsibilities, fear of infection, etc.
Puerperal fever	A syndrome characterized by a systemic bacterial infection and septicemia suffered by a mother in the period immediately after childbirth (childbirth fever). Ignaz Semmelweis discovered washing hands with chlorine water dramatically reduced the infection. 1840s.
Pulmonary artery catheter sleeve	Pulmonary artery catheters require a significant amount of manipulation during insertion, and adjustment during monitoring. The use of a sterile plastic sleeve over the exterior portion of the catheter reduces the microbial contamination of the surface, thus reducing the risk of infection. Because the catheter is usually dragged along the surface of the drape, the sleeve would also reduce lint contamination, therefore reducing the risk of lint thrombosis.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Pulmonary artery catheterization (PAC)	The insertion of a catheter into a pulmonary artery. Its purpose is diagnostic; it is used to detect heart failure or sepsis, monitor therapy, and evaluate the effects of drugs. The pulmonary artery catheter allows direct, simultaneous measurement of pressures in the right atrium, right ventricle, pulmonary artery, and the filling pressure ("wedge" pressure) of the left atrium. The pulmonary artery catheter is frequently referred to as a Swan-Ganz catheter.
Pulmonary circulation	The flow of blood from the right ventricle of the heart to the lungs for exchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide in the pulmonary capillaries, then through the pulmonary veins to the left atrium to be sent out to the body through the aorta.
Pulmonary embolism	Blockage in the pulmonary artery most commonly clot. Can cause rapid death.
Pulmonary mechanics	The study of the volume and pressure changes produced in the thorax and lungs by the muscles of breathing; the muscles of ventilation generate the pressures that overcome the natural elasticity, or static properties, of the respiratory system during conditions of zero gas flow.
Pulmonary surfactant	A complex phospholipid substance in the lung that regulates the amount of surface tension of the fluid lining the alveoli. Exogenous lung surfactant from natural and artificial sources is available for treating patients with respiratory distress syndrome. Premature infants often have insufficient amount of this fluid. SYN: lung surfactant.
Pulse Oximeter	A device connected to a digit (finger or toe or ear lobe) which measures the oxygen saturation of the hemoglobin passing through the capillaries beneath the device.
Pump controlled	Administration method in which formula is infused using an enteral pump, which assures accurate volume delivery.
Puritis	Itching.
Purpura	Hemorrhage into the skin, mucous membranes, internal organs, and other tissues; one type is Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP) (spontaneous bleeding under the skin due to low numbers of platelets; unknown cause, often self-correcting).
Purulent	Containing or forming pus. SYN suppuration.
Pus	A "creamy" exudate that is the remains of necrosis of the tissues. Its main constituent is an abundance of polymorphonuclearphiles (PMN - aka neutrophils), fluids from this inflammatory response, bacteria and cell debris.
Pyloric sphincter	A thickening of the circular layer of gastric musculature encircling the gastroduodenal junction.
Pyrexia	Hyperthermia, fever, body temperature above the usual range.
Pyrogen	A fever producing substance. Endotoxin is a pyrogen. Also known as a pyrogenic lipopolysaccharide. SEE endotoxin.
Pyrogenic	Eliciting a fever.
Quats (or QACs); Quaternary Ammonium Compound	Based on active ingredients related to benzalkonium chloride. Commonly used for general disinfection of hard surfaces; usually safe for most surfaces and usually used as a one-step disinfectant-cleaner. Quats have good biocidal activity against enveloped viruses and Gram (+) bacteria; fair activity against Gram (-) bacteria and fungi; poor or no activity against non-enveloped viruses, <i>Mycobacteria</i> and bacterial spores. Soap, anionic cleaners and hard water reduce effectiveness. Effectiveness speed: Medium. Cotton rags and cellulose based wipers bind active biocide agents. Can leave gummy residue.
Radiating pain	Pain perceived at the source of the pain that extends to nearby tissues.
Radioallergosorbent test (RAST)	An in vitro or test tube assay used to identify and quantitate potential allergen-specific IgE antibodies in patient serum or potential allergens from product extracts. Typically, a protein allergen is bound to a surface such as a plastic well. The patient's serum is added to the well. If the serum contains antibody to the allergen, the antibodies and allergen will attach to each other. The level of attachment is measured and the amount quantified. Alternatively, IgE antibodies are bound to the plate surface. Then an extract of a product, such as a natural rubber latex glove, is added to the plate to determine if allergens are present in the tested product.
Radiofrequency	In magnetic resonance imaging, the energy applied to switch or create a gradient in the magnetic field; radiant energy of a certain frequency range; e.g., radio and television employ radiant energy having a frequency between 105–1011 Hz, while diagnostic x-rays have a frequency in the range of 3×10^{18} Hz.
Rami communicantes	Two branches passing anteriorly and along the vertebrae to connect with the sympathetic ganglia of the autonomic nervous system.
Ramp	In electrical recording, a uniformly rising voltage or current. If reset to zero at regular intervals, it forms a sawtooth pattern used to provide the time sweep of a cathode ray oscilloscope beam; if reset to zero by a periodic event (e.g., heart beats), the recorded height of the ramps represents time between events.
Ramus communicans	(pl. rami communicans) A bundle of nerve fibers passing from one nerve to join another. - White ramus communicans - communicating ramus (containing lightly myelinated, preganglionic fibers) between a mixed spinal nerve and one of the ganglia of the sympathetic chain. - Gray ramus communicans - communicating ramus (containing unmyelinated, postganglionic fibers) between one the ganglia of the sympathetic chain and a mixed spinal nerve.
Ramus, dorsal	A projecting part, elongated process, or branch of a nerve being or located near, on, or toward the back or posterior part of the human body; pertaining to the back or any dorsum.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Ramus, ventral	A projecting part, elongated process, or branch of a nerve of or relating to the belly (abdominal); being or located near, on, or toward the front or anterior part of the human body.
Recruitment	This term refers to the process of opening collapsed or partially collapsed alveoli and adjacent airways to allow for oxygenation. This is done with a ventilator or surfactant or both.
Refeeding syndrome	A set of physiological and metabolic complications associated with reintroducing adequate nutrition too rapidly for a person with severe protein-calorie malnutrition.
Referred Pain	Pain felt at a site different from that of an injured or diseased organ or body part.
Regional Anesthesia	Anesthesia provided by injecting a local anesthetic to block a group of sensory nerve fibers. The tissues are anesthetized layer by layer, as the surgeon approaches the deeper structures of the body. Regional anesthesia has largely replaced local anesthesia for major procedures.
Regional infection	The spreading of an infection throughout a region of the body, making the local lymph nodes responsible for containing the infection and keeping it from becoming systemic.
Re-growth	Multiplication of microorganisms to repopulate an area after a large portion of the microbial population was destroyed or removed (e.g. after a surgical scrub).
Reinforced gown	A gown that is reinforced (e.g. fabric, plastic) either entirely or at defined locations to increase the fluid barrier capability of the material, often used by orthopedic surgeons, for example.
Relaxin	A polypeptide sex hormone of the corpus luteum that facilitates birth by causing relaxation of the pelvic ligaments.
Renal	Pertaining to the kidneys.
Repletion	To reestablish nutritional stores.
Reservoir (pathogen)	Place in which an infectious agent can survive but may or may not multiply.
Resident flora	Microorganisms that are normal in a particular body area.
Residual volume (RV)	The amount of air (approximately 1.2 L) remaining in the lungs after the most forceful expiration.
Residuals	That amount of tube feeding remaining upon aspiration of stomach contents; used to determine how quickly a patient is tolerating tube feeding formula or if there is a problem with peristalsis.
Resistance to infection	The ability of an individual to fight off infection utilizing the complex interacting factors of white blood cells, complement, antibodies, adequate nutrition, tissue tone, circulation competency.
Resistant gram-negative rods	Bacteria that causes serious infections that are very difficult to treat due to the pathogen's resistance to many commonly prescribed antibiotics. They are a cause of illnesses such as pneumonia.
Resistant organisms	Pathogens that can survive typical treatment with antibiotics.
Respirator fit testing	Is conducted to assess respirator fit by having the wearer perform several specified activities while being exposed to specific sensory-detectable chemicals (qualitative testing) or particles (quantitative testing).
Respirator seal check	Also referred to a user seal check or fit check. Don the respirator, mold nose piece to engage a snug fit. Place hands over respirator, careful not to disturb position. Positive seal check: Exhale sharply (puff). No leakage should occur around the respirators periphery. Negative seal check: Inhale sharply. If no leakage, the negative pressure will make the respirator appear to cave inward.
Respiratory acidosis	A condition resulting from the accumulation of carbon dioxide; blood pH falls markedly as the hydrogen ion concentration increases.
Respiratory alkalosis	A condition resulting from the depletion of carbon dioxide; blood pH rises markedly as the hydrogen ion concentration decreases.
Respiratory center	A functional collection of nerve cells in the brainstem that control ventilatory activity. The cells are linked together to form a neural net that includes the motoneurons innervating respiratory muscles. Three distinct neuronal complexes comprise the respiratory center in the brainstem: dorsal respiratory group (DRG), ventral respiratory group (VRG), and the pontine respiratory group (PRG). The spinal respiratory group (SRG) is located in the spinal cord.
Respiratory exchange ratio (R)	The ratio of carbon dioxide eliminated from the tissues relative to the oxygen taken up by the lungs. (In the homeostatic state, the respiratory exchange ratio is normally equal to the metabolic respiratory quotient.)
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)	Cold and bronchitis and rarely pneumonia. Very contagious, especially in children.
Respiratory tree	The trachea, bronchi, and their terminal branches. SYN tracheobronchial tree.
Respiratory zone	The portion of the respiratory system consisting of gas-exchange units called alveoli. Organized into respiratory bronchioles, alveolar ducts, and alveolar sacs. Such structures make up an acinus, or functional unit of the lung, collectively forming the parenchyma of the organ. SEE acinus, parenchyma.
Restenosis	Recurrence of stenosis after corrective surgery (heart valve, narrowed artery, etc.).
Resting metabolic rate (RMR)	Amount of energy expended 2 hours post-absorption of a meal under conditions of rest and thermal neutrality; approximately 10% higher than basal metabolic rate (BMR).
Restricted area	Of the operating room suite - an area where masks as well as scrub attire must be worn. This area includes the actual operating room and other areas where sterile procedures are performed or sterile devices and fields are exposed.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Restrictive Disease	Pulmonary disease marked by pathophysiologic changes that limit the amount of lung inflation (e.g., pulmonary interstitial fibrosis).
Retrograde	Moving backwards or in reverse direction.
Retrovirus	Virus that contains the enzyme reverse transcriptase, which can synthesize DNA from an RNA template, the opposite of the usual process.
Reverse-Trendelenburg position	Elevation of the upper body 30 to 45%. Helps reduce Ventilator Associated Pneumonia (VAP).
Reye's Syndrome	A potentially fatal disease that causes numerous detrimental effects to many organs, especially the brain and liver, as well as causing hypoglycemia. It has been associated with aspirin consumption by children with viral illness (especially with fever), but can also occur in the absence of aspirin use.
Rhinitis	Inflammation of the nasal mucous membrane (runny nose).
Rhizotomy	The operation of cutting the anterior or posterior spinal nerve roots for the relief of pain or spastic paralysis.
Rima glottides	The opening between the true vocal cords. SEE larynx.
Risk factor	A characteristic, behavior; or experience that increases the probability of developing a negative health outcome (e.g., infection).
Risk stratification	A method to allow comparisons of outcomes by grouping similar subgroups together within samples and populations (e.g., Surgical Site Infection Risk Index).
Rnase	An enzyme that breaks down RNA. Present on standard gloves, additional processing is required for its removal. It is ubiquitous and thus more difficult to avoid. Real problem in molecular biology, forensic and RNA research labs.
Rubber	An elastic substance obtained from the latex of many tropical plants, especially <i>Hevea brasiliensis</i> (rubber tree). It is present in over 40,000 products in the medical and consumer industry. The processing of hard rubber products from crumb or sheet rubber for drug vials caps, table leg cover, etc. is much lower in allergen content than those made by dipping a former into liquid natural rubber latex. SEE latex.
Rugae	Anatomical folds especially of the viscera.
Sacral hiatus	A normally occurring opening at the lower end of the sacrum, exposing the vertebral canal, in the midline of the dorsal surface of the sacrum between the laminae of the fifth sacral vertebra due to failure of the laminae of the last sacral segment to coalesce; provides cannular access to the sacral epidural space for administration of anesthetics (caudal nerve blocks).
Sacrococcygeal ligament	A sheet or band of tough, fibrous tissue which descends from the surface of the sacrum to the coccyx.
Sacrum	One of the 33 bones of the spinal column. The spinal column is made up of 7 cervical (neck), 12 thoracic (chest), 5 lumbar (lower back), five sacral (base of the vertebral column), and 4 coccygeal (or vestigial caudal) vertebrae. The five sacral vertebrae are fused to form the sacrum, and the four coccygeal vertebrae are fused to form the coccyx, or tail bone. SEE vertebra.
Sagittal	Of, relating to, situated in, or being the median plane of a body or any plane parallel to it.
Sal Dose	The level of radiation delivered to the product to achieve the required sterilization assurance level (SAL).
Sanitation	A process resulting from reduction in the microbial population to a safe or relatively safe level on an inanimate object.
Sanitization	Process of reducing the number of bacterial contaminants on inanimate surfaces to a safe level.
Sanitizing	The cleansing of inanimate objects to reduce the microbial count to a safe level. This term is generally used in food services and households. In hospitals, the higher level – disinfection is more appropriate.
Schwann cells	Cells that form the myelin sheaths around nerve fibers providing insulation and protection.
Sciatic foramen	Either of two foramina on each side of the pelvis that are formed by the hip bone, the sacrospinous ligament, and the sacrotuberous ligament and that form a passage from the pelvis to the gluteal and peroneal regions.
Sciatic nerve	Either of the pair of largest nerves in the body that arise one on each side from the sacral plexus and that pass out of the pelvis through the greater sciatic foramen and down the back of the thigh to its lower third where division into the tibial and common peroneal nerves occurs.
SCIP 10 initiative (Normothermia)	SCIP 10 replaces reference to maintaining normothermia for colorectal patients only, to include the same level of temperature control for all patients under general or neuroaxial anesthesia of greater than, or equal to, 60 minutes duration.
Scrub	Member of the surgical team who wears a sterile gown and gloves and assists the surgeon and assistants by providing the sterile instruments and supplies required for surgery. The scrub person may be a registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or surgical technologist.
"Scrub the hub"	A phrase many hospitals have adopted to remind staff to appropriately rub and disinfect access ports (hubs) prior to inserting an infusate.
Sebaceous Gland	Sebaceous glands are primarily found in association with hair follicles but also occur in hairless areas of the skin, except for the palms of the hand and soles of the feet. The sebaceous glands secrete sebum. They can harbor high numbers of bacteria and keep them protected for skin prep antiseptics.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Sebum	Oily substance produced by the sebaceous glands; prevents hair and skin from drying out and forms a thin protective layer on the surface of the skin.
Second intention healing	Healing in which the wound is allowed to close from the bottom upward by filling in with granulation tissue; traumatic wounds in which an extensive loss of tissue has occurred or that are contaminated are allowed to heal by second intention; also called granulation healing.
Secondary bacterial pneumonia	Occurs during or after the primary influenza infection has made tissues vulnerable to attack. This can be due to denuding areas of protective cilia and interrupting the mucociliary clearance, damaging pulmonary tissues opening them to infection or exhausting the immune system and thereby decreasing resistance to infection.
Secondary bloodstream infection (BSI)	A culture-confirmed bloodstream infection related to infection at another site. For example, a patient has pneumonia with <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> , then grows the same pathogen in his blood cultures. The pneumonia is considered the primary infection site and the BSI is secondary to it.
Secondary response	The production of antibodies following subsequent exposures to an antigen. Generally, the response will be more rapid and effective.
Seldinger Technique	Percutaneous catheter access to a vessel or space using a needle through which a guidewire is placed. The needle is subsequently removed and a catheter inserted over the guidewire.
Semi-critical devices	Require a minimum of high level disinfection.
Semi-restricted area	Of the operating room suite - an area where scrub attire is required. This area may include storage areas and corridors leading to restricted areas.
Sensitivity	Ability of a test to detect a disease if the disease is truly present.
Sensitization	The physiological process of developing an allergy. Sensitization is an asymptomatic process until an individual's threshold level is reached. This requires repeated exposure to the antigen or allergen. Subsequent exposure may elicit allergic symptoms.
Sensitize	To increase the specific sensitivity of an individual to an antigen or allergen as the result of exposure. Sensitization is asymptomatic until threshold level is reached through repeated exposure. Subsequent exposure may elicit symptoms.
Sensitized	If IgE antibodies have been detected to the specific allergen in question, the individual is said to be sensitized. Being sensitized does not mean the individual has enough IgE antibodies on mast cells to have an allergic reaction. Thus a sensitized individual is not necessarily allergic (having symptoms).
Sensory	Afferent/ascending, pathways; going toward the center; opposite of efferent.
Sensory stimulation	Stimulating part or all of the body's sensory nerve network.
Sentinel event	An unusual critical adverse event that, when it occurs, should prompt immediate investigation.
Sepsis	Commonly called a "blood stream infection." The presence of bacteria (bacteremia) or other infectious organisms or their toxins in the blood (septicemia) or in other tissue of the body.
Septic shock	Septic shock is a serious medical condition caused by decreased tissue perfusion and oxygen delivery as a result of infection and sepsis, though the microbe may be systemic or localized to a particular site. It can cause multiple organ dysfunction syndrome and death.
Septicemia	Condition that exists when bacteria enters the bloodstream and spreads through all of the body's systems.
Sequela	A condition following as a consequence to a disease.
Seroma	A mass like accumulation of serum (watery fluid) in an organ or tissue.
Serosanguineous fluid	Discharge with serum and blood.
Shelf life	Length of time a concentrated or use dilution of a product can remain active and effective.
Short-term enteral nutrition	Enteral nutrition that is required for less than 3 to 4 weeks.
Silastic	Silicone rubber.
Sinuses	Any of the eight cavities within the skull that are connected with the nasal cavity.
Sinusitis	Inflammation or infection of any of the draining (sinus) cavities of the skull.
Sinvertebral space	A cavity or channel within the vertebrae.
Skin flora	Microorganisms that normally reside on the skin. The total number of skin bacteria on an average human has been estimated at 10^{12} (1,000,000,000,000)
Skin preparations	Antiseptics used to reduce the number of live microorganisms on the skin. Skin preps should be fast acting, have broad range kill of bacteria, dry rapidly, have residual activity and not be toxic to humans.
Skin Prick Test (SPT)	An allergy test used to confirm the diagnosis of sensitivity to a substance including, but not limited to, foods, pollen, grasses, mold, rubber chemicals and natural rubber latex proteins. In this test, a drop of diluted antigenic solution is placed on the skin. The skin is then gently pricked with a lancet.
Skinfold calipers	A measurement device used in a nutrition assessment to measure subcutaneous fat at a particular site.
Slime layer	A type of bacterial capsule that is loosely attached to the cell wall; prevents the cell from receiving antibiotics and encourages colonization (e.g., biofilm formation).

Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education

Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA)	The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America is dedicated to advancing the science and practice of healthcare epidemiology and preventing infections
Somatic	Pertaining to or characteristic of the body.
Somatic nervous system	That part of the nervous system associated with voluntary functions. Generally, associated anatomically with the body wall and appendages; thus the name <i>somatic</i> .
Somatic pain	Generally well-localized pain that results from the activation of peripheral nociceptors without injury to the peripheral nerve or central nervous system. Clinical examples: superficial laceration or burn, intramuscular injections, otitis media, somatitis, extensive abrasion.
Sonography	Ultrasound, sound waves used to make diagnosis.
Spaulding Classification	Spaulding Inanimate Objects Classification Critical: <u>Level:</u> Heat Sterilization; <u>Risk:</u> Very High; <u>Objects:</u> touch bone or penetrate tissue; blood present (scalpels, forceps, scalers, probes, implants) Semi-Critical: <u>Level:</u> Sterilization, High-Level Disinfection' <u>Risk:</u> Moderate, <u>Objects:</u> Touch mucous membrane but not penetrate; no blood, (mirrors, burnishers, amalgam carriers, etc.) Non-Critical: <u>Level:</u> Intermediate; <u>Risk:</u> Low; <u>Objects:</u> Unbroken skin contact; no blood; (masks, clothing, b.p. cuffs) Environmental Surfaces: Equipment Housekeeping: <u>Level:</u> Low level disinfection; sanitation; <u>Risk:</u> Minimal; <u>Objects:</u> No direct patient contact; no blood units, knobs, light floors, walls, counters
Specialty mask	This is a mask which has a special feature - for instance, anti-fogging.
Specificity	Ability of a test to not detect a disease when not present. Thus a test method with a high specificity would have a low number of false positives.
Spina Bifida	A limited defect in the spinal column, characterized by the absence of vertebral arches, through which the spinal membranes may protrude requiring surgery shortly after birth with multiple procedures thereafter. Patients with spina bifida are at extremely high risk of latex-related hypersensitivity. (40 - 68% were IgE positive for natural rubber latex proteins in the 1990s.)
Spinal canal	The opening in a vertebra, between the neural arch and the vertebral body, within which the spinal cord lies. The vertebral foramina of the consecutive vertebrae form the spinal canal. SEE vertebral foramen.
Spinal cord	That part of the central nervous system contained within the spinal canal of the vertebral column, and extending from the foramen magnum to the upper lumbar region.
Spinal ligaments	Include: anterior longitudinal ligament, interspinous ligament, ligament flavum, posterior longitudinal ligament, and supraspinous ligament. See individual terms for complete definitions.
Spinal nerves	The nerves emerging from the spinal cord; there are 31 pairs, each arising from the cord by rootlets that converge to form two roots, anterior (ventral or motor) and posterior (dorsal or sensory); the latter type is provided with a circumscribed enlargement, the spinal (dorsal root) ganglion; the two roots unite in the intervertebral foramen, and the mixed spinal nerve almost immediately divides again into anterior and posterior (primary) rami, the former supplying the anterolateral trunk and the limbs, the latter the true muscles and overlying skin of the back.
Spirometry	Measurement of the air capacity of the lungs; spirometry deals with the recording of air moved into and out of the lungs during different conditions of breathing.
Splanchnic nerve	One of three nerves supplying the viscera.
Spunbond-Meltblown-Spunbond (SMS)	SMS is a three-layer polypropylene fabric technology developed by Kimberly-Clark. The top and bottom layers are for strength and a base for treatments such as static charge and alcohol resistance. The inner layer is for microbial filtration.
Spondylolisthesis	Forward movement of the body of a lumbar vertebra on the one below it and especially of the fifth lumbar vertebra on the sacrum producing pain by compression of nerve roots.
Spontaneous Breath	A patient triggered and cycled breath. Term is often used to denote the first unassisted breath by patient when determining if they can be removed from mechanical ventilation.
Spore (or endospore)	A dormant, tough structure produced by some Gram-positive bacteria to ensure their survival through periods of environmental stress. The presence of oxygen is one such stress for <i>Clostridium</i> . Spores are formed when the vegetative bacterium produces a thick internal wall enclosing its DNA and part of its cytoplasm. Spores are resistant to ultraviolet radiation, desiccation, starvation, and chemical disinfectants, putting them at a significant advantage for successful dispersion. Once in a favorable habitat, a spore germinates (transforms) into its more vulnerable vegetative form where it can multiply and produce toxins.
Sporicidal disinfectant	An agent that destroys microbial spores. Spores are more difficult to kill than vegetative bacteria including <i>mycobacteria</i> , and thus must pass stringent test requirements before making the claim.
Sputum	Mucous secretion from the lungs, bronchi, and trachea.
Stagnant hypoxia	Hypoxia caused by conditions of extremely low blood flowrates to the tissues despite adequate arterial oxygen tension and hemoglobin concentration. SYN: ischemic hypoxia.
Standard gowns	Same as Non-Reinforced Gowns from Kimberly-Clark.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Standard mask	A three-layer mask: with an inner facing, a filtration layer, and an outer facing. Most KC standard masks have a BFE of $\geq 96\%$ and a PFE of $\geq 97\%$. There is no OFFICIAL definition.
Standard Precautions	Also known as Universal Precautions: precautions designed to reduce the risk of transmission of microorganisms from both recognized and unrecognized sources of infection in hospitals.
Staphylococcus	A type of bacteria that causes what is commonly called a <i>Staph</i> infection and can potentially cause a life-threatening illness should it infect a major organ. <i>Staphylococcus</i> is responsible for approximately 34% of all SSI. 20% by coagulase positive <i>Staph</i> and 14% by coagulase negative <i>Staph</i> . <i>S. epidermitis</i> , a skin resident in high numbers on almost everyone, is coagulase negative. <i>S. aureus</i> is a more virulent (aggressive) pathogen; present on a larger percentage of people (on the skin and in the nares) is coagulase positive. Many <i>Staph</i> infections respond to antibiotics; however, there are increasing numbers and types of resistant strains emerging (e.g. MRSA, VISA, VRSA): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MSSA Methicillin sensitive <i>S. aureus</i> - MRSA Methicillin resistant <i>S. aureus</i> - VISA Vancomycin intermediate <i>S. aureus</i> - VRSA Vancomycin resistant <i>S. aureus</i> Approximately 50-60% of <i>S. aureus</i> infections in the US are MRSA. Percentages vary dramatically in different countries.
-static	The suffix used to designate inhibitory treatments such as bacteriostatic or fungistatic. Organisms are kept from growing or multiplying, but can often be rejuvenated after the biostatic disinfectant is no longer in contact.
Static lung compliance (CstCl)	The change in lung volume per unit change in pressure under conditions of no flow. Lungs with increased static compliance are very distensible; lungs with low compliance are stiff and expand with difficulty.
Stellate ganglion	A complex sympathetic ganglion in the lower cervical region, formed by the fusion of the last cervical and first thoracic sympathetic ganglia.
Stenosis	Abnormal narrowing or constriction of a passageway or opening, as an aortic (aortic artery) or pyloric (outlet of stomach) stenosis.
Sterile	Generally: Free from disease causing organisms. Technically: Assurance that a given device is without living organisms. The sterility assurance level (SAL) accepted by the United States (Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation - AAMI) is generally 10^{-6} (a probability of one non-sterile unit per million tested).
Sterility Assurance Level (SAL)	The expected probability of an item being non-sterile after exposure to a valid sterilization process. SAL's normally range from 10^{-3} (1 in a thousand) to 10^{-6} (1 in a million).
Sterilization	The destruction of all life forms from an object or surface. In a practical sense, the definition of sterile is 1 in 1 million chance of being non-sterile. Usually done through heat, steam, radiation, or ethylene oxide although a handful of chemicals exhibit sterilization properties such as glutaraldehydes.
Steroids	A large family of chemical substances, comprising many hormones, body constituents, and drugs, each containing a 17-carbon 4-ring system and including the sterols and various glycosides.
Stigmatization	Refers to characterization or branding of an individual as disgraceful, shameful or ignominious. A healthcare provider who is avoided because of the fear that he/she could spread virus acquired from the patients being cared for is stigmatized.
Stoma	Surgical opening through the skin to an internal organ. Provides access for feeding, colostomy, tracheostomy tubes.
Stomal tract	The tunnel from the opening at surface of the body (stoma) to the organ destination.
Stomatitis	Any inflammatory condition of the mouth; may result from infection, exposure to certain chemicals or drugs, vitamin deficiency, disease.
Stratum Corneum	Outer layer of the epidermis, also call the horny layer. Consists of multiple layers (usually 8-30) of dead peeling cells that serve to prevent excessive water loss and protect the body from physical injury. Bacteria are scattered between the layers of these dead cells. Those deeper in the piles of shingles are not accessible to soaps and antiseptics.
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> , or <i>pneumococcus</i> , is a type of bacteria that causes many different kinds of infections ranging from ear infections and sinus infections to pneumonia and meningitis. That is because more than 90 variants of this bacterium exist. This type of strep infection is different from the bacteria causing strep throat. <i>Streptococci</i> do not mutate as easily as <i>Staphylococci</i> and thus have not developed resistance to antibiotics as rapidly as <i>Staph</i> . There are <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> vaccines for adults and children.
Stricture	Narrowing.
Stridor	Harsh, high-pitched sound heard during inspirations with laryngeal obstruction.
Strikethrough	The mechanism by which microorganisms enter a sterile package, gown or material when it becomes wet; the passage of blood or other bodily fluids completely through a fabric.
Stylette	A slender surgical probe; a flexible metallic rod inserted in the lumen of a flexible to maintain rigidity and give it form during its passage or into a hollow needle to maintain patency.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Subarachnoid	Below the arachnoid mater. In anesthesia, refers to spinal anesthetic injections into the cerebrospinal fluid, which is
Subarachnoid space	The space between the arachnoid and the pia mater through which the cerebrospinal fluid circulates and across which extend delicate trabeculae of connective tissue; the large blood vessels supplying the brain and spinal cord lie in the subarachnoid space.
Subclavian/subclavian vein	The subclavian vein is the large vein behind the collarbone which is sometimes used for placing CVCs, especially if the patient has a cervical spine injury or the line will be used for a long time. Used for dialysis, TPN, chemo drug delivery, etc. There is an increased risk of pneumothorax over other sites, but a decreased risk of infection.
Subclinical infection	An infection in which symptoms are sufficiently mild to escape diagnosis other than by serologic determination or confirmation of the ability to transmit the infection.
Subclinical infection	An infection in which symptoms are sufficiently mild to escape diagnosis other than by serologic determination or confirmation of the ability to transmit the infection.
Subcutaneous Tissue	The subcutaneous tissue is mostly made up of fat. It lies between the dermis and the muscles or bones. It contains blood vessels that expand or contract to help keep your body a constant temperature. Fatty tissue is distributed unevenly over your body and thins with age.
Subjective Global Assessment (SGA)	A type of assessment tool developed by Detsky and colleagues that involves rating the final results in 3 categories of nutritional state.
Sub-micron filtering	ASTM, in F2100-03a: "Standard Specification for Performance of Materials Used in Medical Face Masks", defines Sub-micron filtering as a PFE of $\geq 98\%$ filtration efficiency of 0.1 micron particles.
Sub-sterile area	Usually a small room around which two or more operating rooms may be grouped. Sub-sterile areas often contain cupboards for sterile supplies, a sterilizer, a warming cabinet for sterile solutions, a small sink, and a refrigerator for drugs.
Superficial Incisional surgical site infection (SSI)	Superficial Incisional SSI are those surgical site infections involving only the skin or subcutaneous tissue. Much lower risk of death.
Superior	Situated toward the head and further away from the feet than another and especially another similar part of an upright body.
Superior vena cava	The large vein that returns blood to the heart from the head and arms. This is desired positioning for the distal tip of central venous catheters (CVC).
Supine	Lying on the back.
Suppuration	Process of pus formation.
Supraspinous ligament	[also, <i>supraspinal</i> ligament] The ligament that connects the apices of vertebral spinous processes from the seventh cervical vertebra to the sacrum between consecutive spinous processes, it is continuous with the interspinous ligaments.
Surfactant	An agent which reduces surface tension and allows solutions to better penetrate soils; an agent such as soap or detergent, dissolved in water to reduce its surface tension or the tension at the interface between the water and another liquid.
Surgical asepsis	Sterile technique; practice that keeps an object or an area completely free of microorganisms and spores.
Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP) initiatives	Surgical Care Improvement Project - sponsored by CMS publishes initiatives demonstrated to be best practices for optimal patient safety and outcome. Failure to implement the initiatives can result in reduced or non-reimbursement.
Surgical conscience	The honesty and moral integrity that the surgical technologist must possess in order to practice strict aseptic technique and not hesitate to admit a break in technique and take corrective actions to prevent the patient from acquiring a surgical wound infection. Taught as part of curriculum at schools for nurses, technologists and doctors.
Surgical Infection Society (SIS)	Surgical Infection Society is an international professional organization focused on research, education, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of surgical infections.
Surgical mask	According the Kimberly-Clark: A surgical mask is a mask with ties to secure it to the face of the wearer. There is no OFFICIAL definition.
Surgical Site Infection	An infection that occurs within 30 days after the operation if no implant is left in place or within 1 year if implant is present and the infection appears to be related to the operation.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Surgical Wound Classification	<p>A classification system which employs descriptive case features to postoperatively grade the degree of intraoperative microbial contamination.</p> <p>Class I/Clean: An uninfected operative wound in which no inflammation is encountered and the respiratory, alimentary, genital, or uninfected urinary tract is not entered. In addition, clean wounds are primarily closed and, if necessary, drained, with closed drainage. Operative incisional wounds that follow nonpenetrating (blunt) trauma should be included in this category if they meet the criteria.</p> <p>Class II/Clean: Contaminated: an operative wound in which the respiratory, alimentary, genital, or urinary tracts are entered under controlled conditions and without unusual contamination. Specifically, operations involving the biliary tract, appendix, vagina, and oropharynx are included in this category, provided no evidence of infection or major break in technique is encountered. Class</p> <p>III/Contaminated: Open, fresh, accidental wounds. In addition, operations with major breaks in sterile technique (e.g., open cardiac massage) or gross spillage from the gastrointestinal tract, and incisions in which acute, nonpurulent inflammation is encountered are included in this category. Class IV/Dirty-</p> <p>Infected: Old traumatic wounds with retained devitalized tissue and those that involve existing clinical infection or perforated viscera. This definition suggests that the organisms causing postoperative infection were present in the operative field before the operation.</p>
Surgically clean	A method of disinfecting surfaces in which most bacteria are killed (but not spores).
Surveillance	The process of data collection, collation, and analysis for the purposes of characterizing risk groups and identifying control strategies.
Susceptibility	The body's lack of resistance to disease.
Susceptible	A person or animal not possessing sufficient resistance against a particular pathogenic agent to prevent contracting infection or disease when exposed to the agent.
Susceptible host	Individual who has difficulty combating microorganisms and is at risk for developing an infection.
Sweat gland	The sweat glands are small tubular structures situated within and under the skin. They discharge sweat by tiny openings in the surface of the skin. Sweat is sterile before it touches the bacteria on the skin.
Symmetrical	Comparable in shape, size, and relative position of parts on opposite sides.
Sympathetic	Of or relating to the sympathetic part of the autonomic nervous system; mediated by or acting on the sympathetic nerves.
Sympathetic division	Functionally opposes the parasympathetic division of the ANS; alters organ function to meet a stress situation encountered during "fight or flight" conditions (e.g., elevated heart rate).
Sympathetic trunks	The two chains of sympathetic ganglia extending along the ventrolateral surfaces of the vertebral column from the upper cervical region to the coccyx. Each trunk consists of a series of sympathetic ganglia connected by a nerve cord. These nerve cords are composed largely of nerve fibers associated with the cell bodies within the ganglia. The right and left sympathetic trunks join, at the ventral surface of the coccyx, to form a single ganglion known as the <i>ganglion impar</i> or <i>ganglion of Walther</i> . SEE ganglion impar, ganglion of Walther.
Synapse	The functional membrane-to-membrane contact of a nerve cell with another nerve cell, an effector (muscle, gland) cell, or a sensory organ cell.
Synchronized Intermittent Mechanical Ventilation	(SIMV) A mode of mechanical ventilation that delivers mandatory machine breaths as well as spontaneous breaths. The mechanical breaths are delivered in synchrony with the patient's spontaneous breathing pattern. The mechanical breath can be time or patient triggered, time or volume cycled and volume or pressure limited.
Synthetic latex	Latex (defined as a colloidal suspension in a water based liquid) containing no rubber-tree sap, and therefore none of the proteins that cause allergic reactions.
Synthetic rubber	Not of natural origin; produced by chemical synthesis like polyisoprene.
Systemic toxicity	Adverse effects caused by a substance that affects the body in a general rather than local manner.
T Lymphocyte (T-cell)	<p>The lymphocyte responsible for cell-mediated immunity. When sensitized, they have a receptor which recognizes a specific chemical antigen (chemical sensitizer). On subsequent exposure to that chemical, the sensitized T-cell releases lymphokines, which attract macrophages, neutrophils, and other white blood cells to the reaction site and inflammation ensues. Also known as T-cells (because developed originally in the thymus). Different T-cells have different functions including: "presentation" of antigens to B cells to initiate antibody production; Cytotoxic and immune response suppressor cells.</p> <p>Specialized lymphocytes include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> T-helper cells which assist B-cells to produce antibodies T-suppressor cells which suppress immunological activity to avoid over-reaction T-cells which release cytokines and assist phagocytes T-killer cells which recognized and destroy cancerous cells and cells infected with virus.
Tachycardia	Rapid heart rate usually greater than 100 beats per minute in adults.
Tachypnea	Abnormally rapid breathing.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Talc	A basic silicate of magnesium, $Mg_3Si_4O_{10}(OH)_2$, used as a solid lubricant. Causes foreign body reaction in the body producing granulomas and adhesions. Banned from most surgical gloves in the US & Europe by the 1960s.
Tamponade	Cessation of the flow of blood into an organ or area of the body by pressure, as in cardiac tamponade when accumulated fluid compress the heart during congestive heart failure.
Temporary Central Line	A Central Line that is not tunneled
Tensile strength	Measurement of the amount of stretch or pull required to rupture or break a glove barrier fabric or any other device or material calculated on a per thickness scale.
Terminal bronchiole	Small diameter branches of the bronchioles. These noncartilaginous airways are the last elements of the conducting zone and give rise to the respiratory bronchioles of the respiratory zone.
Test dose	A mixture of local anesthetic and epinephrine used to determine whether an epidural needle or catheter is properly placed within the epidural space. The local anesthetic will cause a spinal block if the needle is intrathecal. The epinephrine will induce an increased heart rate if the needle is intravascular.
The Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc. (APIC)	APIC is a multidisciplinary voluntary organization with over 10,000 members. Its purpose is to influence, support and improve the quality of healthcare throughout the practice and management of infection control and the application of epidemiology in all health settings. The organization, which is based in Washington, D.C. is led by an elected board of members who volunteer their time and expertise.
Therapeutic	The science and art of healing (as opposed to palliative which does not address healing).
Third spacing	Shunting of fluids into the extracellular space; body conceals fluid loss.
Thoracic	Pertaining to the thorax or chest area.
Thorax	The part of the body formed by the bones, muscles and cartilages of the rib cage and the tissues and organs within it. Chest.
Threshold	The level that must be exceeded for an effect to be produced or action to be taken. This may be the number of organisms to cause an infection or number of exposures to an allergen for a susceptible individual to begin to show symptoms of allergic reaction, etc.
Thrombocyte	Platelet necessary for coagulation.
Thrombocytopenia	Decreased numbers of platelets (the blood cells that help clotting); bleeding disorder.
Thromboembolism	Obstruction of a blood vessel by a clot (thrombus) carried in the bloodstream from its site of formation.
Thrombolytics	A drug used to dissolve clot.
Thrombophlebitis	Inflammation of a vein associated with a blood clot(s).
Thrombosed	Clotted.
Thrombosis	An abnormal condition in which a clot (thrombus) is formed within a blood vessel.
Thrombus	A blood clot - loose or attached to the wall of a vessel or heart.
Tidal volume (VT)	The amount of air moved by diaphragmatic activity during normal, relaxed, quiet breathing (approximately 0.5 L in an average young adult man).
Tissue desiccation	Drying out of tissues. When tissues dry out, they become foreign bodies or material that must be cleared away by immune cells.
Tolerance	The ability to endure or become less reactive to a stimulus. For example, <i>S. aureus</i> that has become tolerant of methicillin (MRSA) or people who were allergic to ragweed become tolerant after repeated exposure to the allergen by an allergist in a controlled environment.
Tortuous	Having many curves, twists, turns.
-tosis	Suffix meaning higher than normal. (e.g., leukocytosis - higher white cell count than normal).
Total lung capacity (TLC)	The total amount of air that can be held by the lungs with a maximal inspiratory effort (approximately 6 L); TLC
Total parenteral nutrition	Intravenous delivery of all nutrients via a central catheter (see central venous access) into the vena cava. Used in patients with long term coma, severe burns, severe GI problems, or malabsorption syndromes.
Totally implantable	Type of catheter used for venous access; long term, tunneled beneath the skin with subcutaneous port access via needle, in subclavian or internal jugular vein; lowest risk for CRBSI.
Toxic megacolon	A life threatening, acute, severe inflammation of the colonic wall caused by toxins, accompanied by extreme dilatation of the colon. The expanded condition causes thinning of the intestinal wall, putting the patient at risk for perforation.
Toxin (microbiology)	A poison, usually a protein, made by pathogenic bacteria, which is highly toxic for other living organisms. An endotoxin is contained within the bacteria and is released when the cells die or are physically damaged. An exotoxin is one that is produced by a microorganism and released without destroying the producing cell.
Trachea	A cylindrical of mucosal tissue whose shape is supported by rings of cartilage and a tough membrane sheath, approximately 4 in (11.3 cm) long, that originates at the larynx. It extends to the fifth dorsal vertebra, where it divides at a point called the carina into two bronchi, one leading to each lung. SEE bronchi, windpipe.
Tracheobronchial tree	The trachea, bronchi, and their terminal branches. SYN respiratory tree.
Tracheostomy	Surgical incision in the trachea just below the larynx through which a tracheostomy tube is inserted as an artificial airway.
Tracts	Bundles of nerve fibers that run through the CNS.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Transairway pressure (Pta)	The pressure difference (PI – P2) along the conducting “tube” of the airways; it is the pressure difference between the mouth pressure (Prn) at the proximal end and the alveolar pressure (Palv) at the distal end of the conducting tube.
Transmission	Link in the chain of infection in which passing of infection to a host occurs; requires a susceptible host, means of transmission, infectious agent, reservoir (source), and means of escape (how it will be transmitted to the next host).
Transmission based precautions	Used in addition to Standard Precautions for any client with known or suspected infections that are spread by airborne, droplet or physical contact.
Transverse process	A process that projects on the dorsolateral aspect of each side of the neural arch of a vertebra.
Traumatized tissue	Tissue that has been subjected to traumatic injury such as physical or chemical damage, caused by instrumentation, pressure, bruising, insufficient blood or oxygen, cytotoxic drugs, desiccation, etc.
Triclosan	Skin preparation that disrupts the microbial cell wall. Effective against gram positive bacteria and most gram negative (notable exception is pseudomonas). Minimal affect on Tuberculosis and poor activity against viruses. Activity is slow and is minimally effective when in contact with organic matter.
Trigger point	A point on the body that is particularly sensitive to touch, and which, when stimulated, becomes the site of painful neuralgia.
Tube clogging	Occlusion of the feeding tube often caused by medications, viscous formulas, or insufficient flushing.
Tube displacement	Accidental removal or movement of the feeding tube wherein the tip of the tube is not in the gastrointestinal tract where it was originally placed.
Tube feeding (TF)	Providing a nutrient solution via a tube into the stomach or intestines; enteral nutrition.
Tubercle	A nodule, especially in an anatomic, not pathologic, sense; a small knobby prominence or excrescence; any of several prominences (as the acoustic tubercle) in the central nervous system that mark the nuclei of various nerves.
Tuberculocidal	An EPA-classified hospital disinfectant that also kills <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> (tubercle bacilli). EPA has registered approximately 200 tuberculocides. Such agents also are called Mycobactericides.
Tuberculocidal (or mycobactericidal):	Because mycobacteria, such as <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> , are more resistant to chemical disinfectants than are other vegetative bacteria, additional tests must be performed for a disinfectant to claim to be effective against the tuberculosis bacterium.
Tuberculosis (TB)	A respiratory illness caused by the bacterium <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> . It is a disease considered to be transmitted by the airborne route and therefore a respirator (N95 or higher) is recommended for HCW attending TB patients.
Tunnel	Commonly performed for long term catheters where a portion of the central venous catheter (CVC) is placed beneath the skin, theoretically to decrease infection and secure the catheter reducing "pistoning" (movement back and forth that can draw in bacteria from the skin).
Tunnel Infection	Tenderness, erythema, or site induration >2 cm from the catheter site along the subcutaneous tract of a tunneled catheter (e.g. Hickman or Broviac), in the absence of concomitant BSI.
Tunneled Central Venous Catheters	Type of catheter used for venous access; long term, implanted into subclavian, internal jugular or femoral veins, medium risk for CRBSI [less than non-tunneled and more than peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC) line].
Tunneled cuffed catheter	Cuff around a catheter that is tunneled through the subcutaneous tissue before entering the target blood vessel. Aid in stabilizing the catheter to prevent pistoning (shifting back and forth). Pistoning increases microbial access along the exterior of the catheter. Thus tunneled cuffed catheters reduce the risk of a CL infection.
Turbinates	Collective name given to the superior and middle nasal conchae of the ethmoid bone, and the paired inferior nasal conchae. The turbinates disrupt the airflow in the nasal cavity, creating turbulent flow, and causing heavier particulate matter to be removed. Also moistens and warms the air headed for the trachea and lungs. SEE ethmoid bone; inferior nasal conchae.
Type I Hypersensitivity	An IgE-mediated immediate hypersensitivity reaction, characterized by contact urticaria (hives), angioedema, rhinitis, respiratory complications, drop in blood pressure and rapid heart rate that may potentially progress to anaphylaxis. Severe cases may be fatal. Examples include Type I allergies to the proteins in peanuts, penicillin, shell fish, natural rubber latex, etc. Symptoms appear within minutes to an hour.
Type IV Hypersensitivity	A cell-mediated, delayed hypersensitivity reaction, characterized by dermatitis, eczema, erythema, vesiculation (blisters), keratosis, hyperplasty (thickening of skin) and cracking. The area affected usually increases with repeated exposure. Examples include Type IV allergies to the chemicals in nickel, blue eye shadow, poison oak, accelerators in gloves, etc. Symptoms fully express in 24-72 hours.
Ultrasound guided insertion	Utilizing ultrasound to place navigation and catheter needle during CL insertion has improved successful placement and reduced vascular and tissue injury.
Underwriter's Laboratories	UL is an organization which evaluates products using specific safety tests.
United States Pharmacopoeia (USP)	United States Pharmacopoeia is a compendium recognized officially by the FDA and contains descriptions, uses, test methods, strengths, and levels of required purity for selected drugs and devices.
Universal precautions	Method used to prevent the spread of infectious agents. All human blood and body fluids are treated as if known to be infectious. Now commonly referred to as Standard Precautions.
Uremia	Blood toxicity caused by kidney failure.

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Urticaria	Hives.
Use-life	The length of time a diluted product can remain active and effective. The stability of the chemical and the storage conditions (e.g., temperature and presence of air, light, organic matter, or metals) determine the use-life of antimicrobial products.
Vacuole	A bubble or space in a cell. In a macrophage, the phagolysosome is a vacuole in which enzymes and toxic peroxides digest foreign debris including microorganisms.
Valsalva maneuver	Forced expiratory effort ("strain") against a closed airway, bearing down.
Vancomycin	A potent antibiotic with a narrow spectrum of activity that can have varying side effects; used against MRSA by inhibiting cell wall synthesis. Use is usually strictly controlled to prevent the development of resistance - hold the "big guns" in reserve.
Vancomycin-Resistant <i>Enterococcus faecalis</i> (VRE)	<i>Enterococci</i> are gram-positive bacteria that are part of the normal bowel flora of humans and the female genital tract but can cause severe infections when they gain access to other parts of the body. Vancomycin is the antibiotic that usually works to treat these infections. These resistant strains are referred to as VRE (Vancomycin-Resistant <i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>). Vancomycin resistance is of particular concern because of treatment difficulties, and because of the potential to be transferred to other microorganisms. Populations at increased risk for VRE infection or colonization include critically ill patients, or those with severe underlying disease or immunosuppression such as ICU, transplant, and oncology patients, patients undergoing intra-abdominal or thoracic surgery, or with indwelling urinary or central venous catheters, and those having prolonged hospitalizations. VRE can spread from person-to-person by direct patient-to-patient contact or indirectly on health care workers' hands, or on contaminated environmental surfaces and patient care equipment.
Vascular insufficiencies	Inadequate peripheral blood flow. With regards to CLs, may be caused by the use of a catheter with too large a diameter, thrombus formation restricting blood flow, break down of vessel integrity.
Vasodilation	The dilation, or increase in diameter, of blood vessels that aids in increasing blood flow (e.g. to the area of damage, to cause migraines, etc.).
Vector	Object or animal by which organisms are transmitted (e.g., insect, flies, lice, ticks).
Vegetative bacteria	Are the non-spore forms of bacteria. Only in this more vulnerable vegetative form can bacteria take in nutrients, grow, reproduce and produce toxins. Much more susceptible to disinfectants.
Vein	A blood vessel that carries blood low in oxygen content from the body, back to the heart. The deoxygenated form of hemoglobin (deoxyhemoglobin) in venous blood makes it appear dark. Veins are part of the afferent wing of the circulatory system which returns blood to the heart. The blood is darker than oxygenated blood.
Venotomy	Surgical incision in the vein (e.g. to perform angioplasty).
Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia (VAP)	A subset of HAP; a nosocomial pneumonia that develops in patients after they have been on mechanical ventilator support for ≥48 hours.
Ventral	Of or pertaining to a position toward the belly, or, in humans, the anterior or front surface of the body.
Ventral ramus	Passes laterally and anteriorly to the sides of the torso, innervating associated muscles and skin, and gives origin to the nerve plexuses.
Vertebra	[<i>pl. vertebrae</i>]. One of the 33 bones of the spinal column. The spinal column is made up of 7 cervical (neck), 12 thoracic (chest), 5 lumbar (lower back), five sacral (base of the vertebral column), and 4 coccygeal (or vestigial caudal) vertebrae. The five sacral vertebrae are fused to form the sacrum, and the four coccygeal vertebrae are fused to form the coccyx, or tail bone.
Vertebral column	The spine or backbone.
Vertebral foramen	The opening in a vertebra, between the neural arch and the vertebral body, within which the spinal cord lies. The vertebral foramina of the consecutive vertebrae form the <i>spinal canal</i> .
Vesicant	A substance (solution or medication) that induces blistering (vesicles).
Vesicles	A small circumscribed elevation of the epidermis containing a serous fluid; a small blister.
Villi	Fingerlike projections of the cellular membrane that line the small intestine and are primarily responsible for absorption of nutrients.
Vinyl	Usually refers to polyvinylchloride (PVC). Resin used as a rubber substitute (e.g. as gloves) in many medical and industrial applications. Although the material itself is a barrier to microorganisms, its non-elastic properties do not allow for maintenance of barrier integrity after extended use, or in rigorous procedures.
Virucidal	An agent that renders viruses non-infective.
Virulence	Degree of pathogenicity (potential of a given microorganism to cause disease in a specific host). The concept includes infectivity, invasiveness, and toxicity.
Virus	A microorganism that can cause an infection and that needs a host (human, animal or other living organism) in order to propagate. Is considered to be non-living by most definitions.
Viscera	Plural of viscus; internal organs of the body (e.g., heart, lungs, intestines).

**Kimberly-Clark Health Care Glossary To Augment *Knowledge Network* Educational Offerings
Department of Medical Sciences and Clinical Education**

Visceral pain	Pain that results from the activation of nociceptors of the thoracic, pelvic, or abdominal viscera. It is felt as a poorly localized aching or cramping sensation and is often referred to cutaneous sites. Clinical examples: colic, muscle spasms, sickle cell, appendicitis, kidney stones.
Viscosity	Measurement of the resistance of a fluid to flow when a force is applied.
Vital capacity (VC)	A measure of the total amount of usable air available in the lungs following a maximal inspiratory effort (approximately 4.8 L); VC equals the sum of the inspiratory reserve volume, tidal volume, and the expiratory reserve volume. SEE lung volumes.
Vocal ligament	A strong band of elastic tissue lying within the vocal fold. Vocal ligaments form the medial edge of the rima glottides.
Voltage	Electromotive force, pressure, or potential expressed in volts.
Volvulus	The bowel twists upon itself occluding the flow; bowel obstruction.
V-tear	Measurement of the amount of weight necessary to propagate a tear after a "V" has been cut.
Wasting	A term used to describe the effects of starvation; refers to protein and energy malnutrition.
Wet contact	Most disinfectants must be wet to be active. Therefore, if the label states a disinfectant is sporicidal in 30 minutes, the disinfectant must remain wet and in contact with the spores for that amount of time to be effective.
Wheal	A circumscribed swelling of the skin, appearing as an urticarial (hive) lesion; slightly reddened, often blanched in the center, changing in size and shape, extending to adjacent areas, and usually accompanied by intense itching; produced by exposure to Type I allergenic substances in susceptible persons.
Whey	The watery part of milk remaining after separation of the casein.
White blood cells (WBC)	Refers to blood cells that do not contain hemoglobin. White blood cells include lymphocytes, neutrophils (PMN), eosinophils, macrophages, and mast cells that help the body fight infection, rid the body of foreign threats and function in other diseases processes.
White mater	Dense collections of myelinated tracts.
White ramus communicans	A bundle of myelinated preganglionic nerve fibers connecting a sympathetic ganglion with a spinal nerve.
Wicking	The flow of liquids through a material such as a gown, mask or drape, providing a means of microbial passage.
Windpipe	A cylindrical of mucosal tissue whose shape is supported by rings of cartilage and a tough membrane sheath, approximately 4 in (11.3 cm) long, that originates at the larynx. It extends to the fifth dorsal vertebra, where it divides at a point called the carina into two bronchi, one leading to each lung. SEE bronchi, trachea.
Withdrawal Occlusion (WO)	One can infuse through a catheter but aspiration (pull back) is occluded.
Work of breathing (WOB)	The total amount of work that must be expended by the respiratory muscles to overcome the combined effect in the respiratory system of elastic resistance factors (static elastic recoil of the lungs and thorax), and nonelastic resistance factors (airway resistance plus tissue viscous resistance).
Wound dehiscence	The premature "bursting" open of a wound along surgical suture line that results from poor wound healing or infection.
Xerostomia	Dryness of the mouth caused by abnormal reduction in the amount of salivary secretion due to fever, medication, diarrhea, disease, or medical therapy.
Yankauer	An oral suction device designed to allow effective suction without aspiration of surrounding tissue.