Step 1. Outline the Problem

**What**  
Problem(s): C. diff infection - transmission of C. diff

**When**  
Date: Occurs frequently

**Where**  
Physical Location: Inside healthcare facility  
Process Location: Longer-term care

**Impact to the Goals**  
Safety - Patient: Potential for illness, severe morbidity and mortality  
Organization: Potential sentinel event  
Materials/Labor: Patient isolation costs, effort  
Medical: Treatment of infection

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**Step 2. Cause Map**

**Why?**  
**Effect**  
Cause

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**NOTE:** Read the Cause Map from left to right with the phrase "Was Caused By" in place of each arrow.

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**Step 3. Action Plan**

**What**  
Action(s): Implement prevention strategies

**When**  
Date: Ongoing

**Where**  
Physical Location: Inside healthcare facility  
Process Location: Longer-term care

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**Step 4. Implement the Action Plan**

**What**  
Action(s): Implement prevention strategies

**When**  
Date: Ongoing

**Where**  
Physical Location: Inside healthcare facility  
Process Location: Longer-term care

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**Step 5. Evaluate the Results**

**What**  
Evaluation: Monitor the effectiveness of the implemented strategies

**When**  
Date: Regularly

**Where**  
Physical Location: Inside healthcare facility  
Process Location: Longer-term care

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**Step 6. Maintain the Improvement**

**What**  
Action(s): Maintain the implemented prevention strategies

**When**  
Date: Ongoing

**Where**  
Physical Location: Inside healthcare facility  
Process Location: Longer-term care

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