Common Infection Prevention Mistakes in the Linen Room

When staffing changes occur in the Linen Department, it’s common for *Infection Prevention and safety training* to be a low priority. Here is a list of commonly seen compliance violations to watch for when inspecting on-site linen rooms.

* Cardboard – No porous materials, they can harbor contaminants.
* Uncovered Linen (soil or clean).
* Carts in Hallways.
* Fire Code does not allow linen/pillows or any items closer than 18” to the ceiling on shelves/carts or storage rooms.
* Backup linen must be rotated.
* Personal items in linen carts or stored on shelves.
* Linen touching the floor.
* Cross contamination with soil & clean in the same hallway/docks.
* Staff not wearing PPE when handling soiled linen and then delivering clean.
* Staff not washing hands after handling soiled linen.
* No food or food storage in linen rooms.