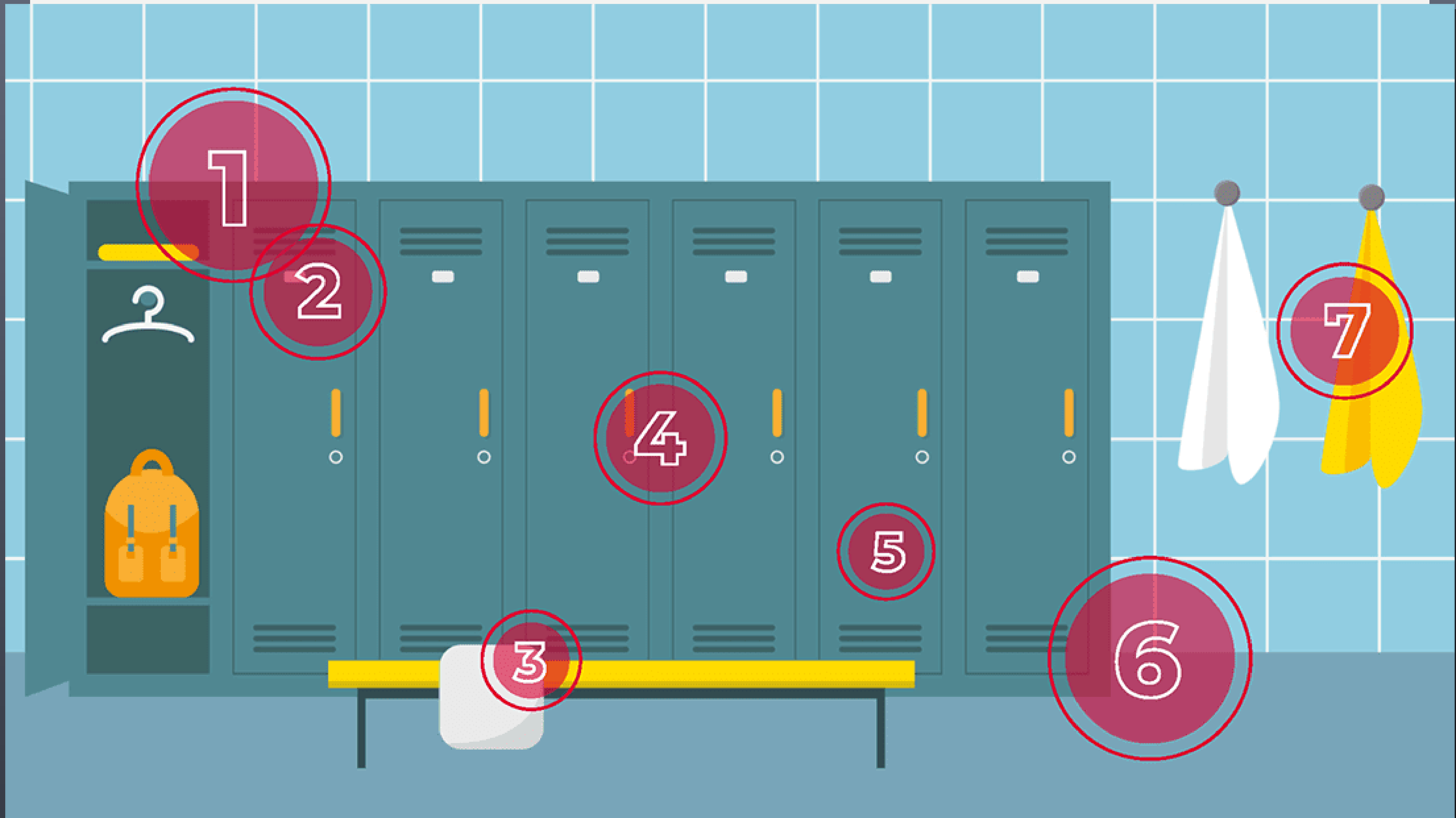


7 COMMON MICROBES FOUND ON SURFACES



1&2 MRSA AND STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS

MRSA is often found on surfaces in healthcare facilities and in homes of those who have had contact with it, while Staph often spreads through direct physical contact with a contaminated surface. Both are resistant to many antibiotics, meaning eliminating spread at the source is the best way to prevent complications.

3 SALMONELLA ENTERICA

Salmonella is responsible for food poisoning in humans, found in many different types of foods including poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, and shellfish. It most often results from eating contaminated food or drinking contaminated water, with symptoms including cramps, diarrhea, fever, and vomiting.

4 INFLUENZA A

Influenza A is one of the most prominent seasonal viruses, impacting millions each year - the only known type of flu to cause pandemics. It is highly transmissible, occurring largely through sneezing and coughing in close proximity to another. However, it also spreads through touch of contaminated surfaces.

5 HUMAN CORONAVIRUS

Human coronavirus has affected population centers for decades, causing a number of illnesses including the common cold. Each year, during cold and flu season, the likelihood of contamination with human coronavirus is much higher, elevating the risk for infection.

6 PSEUDOMONAS AERUGINOSA

This bacterium thrives on many different surfaces, having an innate ability to thrive in many types of environments, particularly sinks and showerheads (moist environments). It has also been known to form biofilms, in which case infection is much more difficult to treat.

7 ESCHERICHIA COLI

E. coli outbreaks often cause food recalls and restaurant closings, and can lead to hospitalization and death in severe cases. Infections have also been reported on cruise ships and nursing homes. Proper hygiene around food, animals, and untreated water sources is important for prevention.