CLEAN

- Means **some** bacteria or bugs have been removed.
- Usually done by washing with soap and water or other cleaning agent

*What is clean?*  
*Your hands after washing and drying well.*  
*A table top after washing and drying.*  
*A freshly washed and dried towel.*  
*The outside of your catheter and transfer set.*  
*Your exit site.*

STERILE

- Means **ALL** bacteria or bugs have been removed.
- Done by special equipment or with special chemicals.

*What is sterile?*  
*The inside of your transfer set.*  
*The inside of your catheter.*  
*The inside of the cap on your transfer set.*  
*The solution in the dialysis bag.*  
*The inside of the tubing for dialysis.*  
*The spike (under the cap) at the end of the tubing.*  
*The inside of your belly (peritoneum).*

*How to keep something sterile:*  
- **As soon as the transfer set cap is off, keep your eyes on the open tip.**  
  - When you are not looking, something sterile may touch something else and then it is no longer sterile.  
  - If something sterile is touched by something clean or dirty, then it is not sterile anymore.