# Transmission-Based Precautions

**Contact Precautions:**

- Risk Zone: Patient and anything attached to or frequently touched by the patient.
- PPE: Gown and gloves to enter zone. Visitors if providing care or visiting more than one patient.
- Hand hygiene: Gel in and out of room and from dirty to clean.
- Patient out of room: Contain drainage, clean patient hands, cover patient with clean gown/cover linens.

**Enteric Precautions:**

- Risk Zone: Patient and anything in the patient room.
- PPE: Gown and gloves to enter room. Visitors only if providing care or visiting more than one patient.
- Hand hygiene: Gel into room and from dirty to clean. Soap & water out of room.
- Patient out of room: Same as above for Contact Precautions.

**Droplet Precautions:**

- Risk Zone: Unmasked patient and three (3) feet around unmasked patient.
- PPE: Staff and visitors wear mask with eye protection to enter zone.
- Hand Hygiene: Gel in and out of room and from dirty to clean.
- Patient out of room: Patient wears plain mask. No mask for others if patient masked.

**Special Droplet Precautions:**

- Risk Zone: Unmasked patient and three (3) feet around unmasked patient.
- PPE: Staff and visitors wear mask with eye protection to enter zone. During aerosolizing procedures wear PAPR or respirator with eye protection.
- Hand Hygiene: Gel in and out of room and from dirty to clean.
- Patient out of room: Patient wears plain mask. No mask for others if patient masked.

**Airborne Respirator Precautions:**

- Risk Zone: Unmasked patient and air shared with patient.
- PPE: Staff and visitors wear PAPR or respirator to enter patient room.
- Hand Hygiene: Gel in and out of room and from dirty to clean.
- Patient out of room: Patient wears plain mask. No mask for others if patient masked.

**Airborne Contact Precautions: DO NOT ENTER UNLESS IMMUNE**

- Risk Zone: Patient and air shared with patient and anything attached to or touched by the patient.
- PPE: Gown and gloves to enter patient room. Visitors only if providing care or visiting another patient.
- Hand Hygiene: Gel in and out of room and from dirty to clean.
- Patient out of room: Patient wears plain mask. No mask for others if patient masked.

| DISEASE/SYMPTOM | CONTACT | ENTERIC | DROPLET | SPECIAL DROPLET | AIRBORNE CONTACT | AIRBORNE RESPIRATOR |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chicken Pox/ Disseminated Shingles | | | | | X | |
| C. difficile Suspected or confirmed | | X | | | | |
| Severe Cough | | | X | | | |
| Diarrhea | | X | | | | |
| Influenza | | | | X | | |
| Measles | | | | | X | |
| Meningitis | | | X | | | |
| MRSA Infected or colonized | X | | | | | |
| Multidrug-Resistant Gram Negative Organisms e.g. ESBL Infected or colonized | X | | | | | |
| Norovirus (Norwalk) | | X | | | | |
| Pertussis or uncontrolled cough | | | X | | | |
| RSV | X | | | | | |
| Scabies/Lice | X | | | | | |
| Shingles – localized herpes zoster | X | | | | | |
| TB, Pulmonary | | | | | | X |
| VRE Infected or colonized | X | | | | | |
| Wound drainage that cannot be contained | X | | | | | |

Questions? Call Infection Prevention 223-6699 Final 6/7/11

# Standard Precautions – "Every Patient, Every Time"

**Standard Precautions:**

- A group of infection prevention practices used for all patients regardless of diagnosis.
- These practices reduce or prevent contact with patient body fluids or substances.
- Hand hygiene, personal protective equipment (PPE), safe injection practices, and environmental cleaning are essential elements of standard precautions.

**Hand Hygiene:**

- Hand cleaning using soap and water or an alcohol product.
- Required before and after all common tasks to protect both patient and HCW.

**Gowns:**

- Used to protect arms and body from contact with patient body fluids or substances. Usually needed when large amounts of blood or body fluids are expected or when blood is likely to spray or splatter.
- If a gown is needed, gloves are also needed. Consider need for facial protection.

**Facial Protection:**

- A fluid-resistant mask worn with goggles or eye shield.
- Used to protect the eyes, nose, and mouth from contact with patient body fluids or substances, including vomitus, which can spray or splatter into the face of the healthcare worker.
- If facial protection is needed, gloves are also needed. Consider need for gown.

**Safe injection practices:**

- Always use a sterile single-use needle and syringe for each injection.
- Do not reinsert a used needle into multiple dose vials or solutions.
- Do not reuse a single needle or syringe to administer IV medication to multiple patients.

**Environmental Cleaning :**

- Clean and disinfect all patient care equipment between each patient use.

***Use of sterile gloves and sterile technique not addressed. Refer to policies or physician orders regarding use of sterile gloves and sterile technique.**

****Reasonable anticipation; may not apply to every situation.**

| Common Task* | Potential Exposure** | Gloves | Gown | Facial protection | Hand hygiene Before & After |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Insert peripheral IV (PIV) | Blood | x | | | x |
| Access PIV line | Blood | x | | | x |
| Change PIV dressing | Blood | x | | | x |
| Change central line (CL) dressing | Blood | x | | | x |
| Access CL | Blood | x | | | x |
| Remove CL | Blood | x | | x | x |
| Insert urinary catheter (UC) | Urine & mucous membrane | x | | | x |
| Access/drain UC | Urine | x | | | x |
| Remove UC | Urine/ mucous membrane | x | | | x |
| Change surgical dressing | Blood/serous exudate | x | | | x |
| Empty JP/other drain | Blood/serous exudate | x | | x | x |
| Give oral med | None | | | | x |
| Give IM/SQ Injection | Blood | x | | | x |
| Give IV med | Blood | x | | | x |
| Check BP/pulse | None | | | | x |
| Check Temp, rectal/oral | Mucous membrane | x | | | x |
| Give bed bath | Non-intact skin/ mucous membranes | x | | | x |
| Brush teeth/tongue | Saliva, mucous membrane | x | | | x |
| Give peri care, handle bedpan/urinal | Urine/stool/mucous membrane contact | x | | | x |
| Assist to ambulate | None | | | | x |
| Turn/lift | None | | | | x |
| Dirty/infected wound care | Wound exudate | x | | | x |
| Trach care | Mucous/sputum | x | | x | x |
| Suctioning, oral or trach | Saliva/sputum/drainage | x | | x | x |
| Handling emesis basin | Stomach contents, saliva | x | | | x |