

Carolinas HealthCare System Blue Ridge

2014 Annual Continuing Education Module

Infection Prevention:

One System Preventing Infections

This self-directed learning module contains information you are expected to know to protect yourself, our patients, and our guests.

Content Experts:
Infection Prevention

Target Audience: All Teammates

Contents

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Instructions | 2 |
| Learning Objectives..... | 2 |
| Module Content | 3 |



Infection Prevention



Instructions:

The material in this module is an introduction to important general information and procedures regarding Infection Prevention practices.

- Read this module.
- If you have any questions about the material, ask your supervisor.
- Complete the online posttest for this module.

Learning Objectives:

When you finish this module, you will be able to:

- Discuss why **Hand Hygiene** is important to prevent the spread of infection.
- Define **Standard Precautions** and discuss when and how to use them.
- List **Isolation Precautions** used to prevent the spread of infection.
- Describe additional **Infection Prevention Resources**
- Define **Contact Time** for disinfecting surfaces and patient care items.



Infection Prevention



What does Infection Prevention mean?

Infection Prevention means preventing healthcare associated infections and reducing the likelihood teammates, patients, or visitors will be exposed to germs in a healthcare facility. Education should be provided to the patient and all visitors regarding the reasons for isolation and the importance of preventing the spread of infection. All patient and visitor education should be documented.

Why is Infection Prevention so IMPORTANT?

- Over 2 million patients a year are diagnosed with a hospital acquired infection.
- Around 100,000 of these patients **die**
- Because these infection rates are about **people...**

*Our patients, our friends and our neighbors, who are **harmed** every day, and the human and economic impact that occurs with each infection.*

Where can I learn more?

If you have questions about specific departmental Infection Prevention measures, high-risk patients or procedures, be sure to ask your supervisor and/or preceptor.

Additional resources include:

- Infection Prevention Manual
- Exposure Control Plans & Bloodborne Pathogen Policy
- Safety Management Program Manual
- Departmental policies and procedures
- Infection Prevention
- Teammate Health
- Corporate Safety
- Isolation Reports

Infection Prevention

What is my role in Infection Prevention?

- Performing hand hygiene according to approved guidelines
- Use **Standard Precautions** for patient care
- Use **Isolation Precautions** when needed
- Utilize the cleaning grid to appropriately disinfect equipment.

HAND HYGIENE



It only takes 15 seconds!



**Diarrhea
OR
Visibly Soiled**

Any Other Time

The 5 Moments for Hand Hygiene are:

1. Before touching a patient;
2. Before a procedure;
3. After a procedure or body fluid exposure risk;
4. After touching a patient; and
5. After touching a patient's surroundings.



***Artificial nails have been linked to the transmission of infection. All healthcare workers providing direct patient care are restricted from wearing artificial nails/gels/wraps/overlays. Natural nails should not extend > 1/4" beyond tip of fingers.**

Infection Prevention

RESPIRATORY HYGIENE/COUGH ETIQUETTE

To prevent the spread of all respiratory infections, including the flu, the following measures should be used:

- Stay at home if you are sick
- Cough/sneeze into a tissue or your upper sleeve
- Use the nearest receptacle to dispose of tissue after use
- You may be asked to wear a mask in patient care areas
- Perform hand hygiene after blowing your nose or touching contaminated objects/materials

During periods of increased respiratory infections, additional signage will be posted throughout facilities and masks will be made available to symptomatic persons.

STANDARD PRECAUTIONS

Use Standard Precautions to Protect Yourself from Exposure to Blood and Body Fluids.

Treat all blood and body fluids as if they could spread infection.

Depending on the task, use appropriate PPE including:

- gowns and/or aprons
- masks and/or face shields or N-95 respirators
- eye wear such as special glasses, goggles, or face shields
- gloves

ISOLATION PRECAUTIONS

Isolation Precautions are used when additional measures are needed to prevent the spread of germs.

- The ***Conditions and Organisms Requiring Isolation Precautions Policy*** lists conditions alphabetically, the type of isolation required for each, the length of time a patient should remain on isolation, and other special considerations.
- Patients with suspected or known contagious diseases must not wait in common areas and must be placed in isolation as soon as the infection is suspected
- Educate patient and family about Isolation Precautions using patient education sheets and document in the electronic medical record.

Infection Prevention



- Used for patients infected or colonized with organisms that are spread by contact with person or contaminated surfaces

Ex: - MRSA -CRE -MDRO

- Hand Hygiene on ENTRY & EXIT
- Wear GOWN and GLOVES to enter room
- Dispose of PPE upon exit



- Used for patients with known/suspected stomach germs that are spread by contact with person or contaminated surface

Ex: -Diarrhea illness -C. diff -Norovirus

- Hand Hygiene on ENTRY
- Use Soap & Water on EXIT

(These germs are not easily killed by alcohol in hand foam/sanitizer)

- Wear GOWN and GLOVES to enter room
- Dispose of PPE upon exit
- Clean surfaces and patient care items with **BLEACH**



Infection Prevention



- Used for patients with known/suspected infections spread by droplets in the air

Ex: - **Influenza - Bacterial Meningitis**

- Hand Hygiene on ENTRY & EXIT
- Wear **SURGICAL MASK** to enter room
- Dispose of PPE upon exit



- Used for patients with known/suspected infection spread by small airborne particles, need special air handling in **NEGATIVE PRESSURE** rooms

Ex: - **Tuberculosis (TB)**

- Hand Hygiene on ENTRY & EXIT
- Wear **N95 MASK** or **PAPR** to enter room
- Dispose of PPE upon exit



- Used for patients with conditions that make put them at greater risk for infection
Ex: - **Transplant - Chemotherapy**

- Hand Hygiene on ENTRY & EXIT
- If you are **SICK**, do not enter patient's room.

Infection Prevention

Cleaning vs. Disinfection

Cleaning – removes surface soil

Disinfection – kills *most* actively growing bacteria, fungi, viruses



Contact Time = Wet Time (on surface)

MULTI-DRUG RESISTANT ORGANISMS (MDROs)

What are they?

Microorganisms that are resistant to one or more classes of antibiotics. These infections are difficult to treat, prolong patient's hospital stays, are linked to a high death rate and are very expensive. Examples: **MRSA, ESBL, CRE & C Difficile**

Prevention Is Key!

- Hand Hygiene – including the patient
- Contact Isolation (Gown & Glove)
- Environmental Cleaning
- Appropriate Antibiotic Use

Infection Prevention

What is my role in preventing infections?

- Wash your hands often
- Follow Infection Prevention Department policies
- Observe all Isolation Precautions
- Protect yourself...wear appropriate personal protection equipment (PPE)
- Stay home if you are sick
- Keep a clean work environment
- If you don't know, ASK

