

Isolation Guidelines

VCU Health System
Department of Epidemiology

Goal of Isolation

- Prevent transmission of microorganisms from infected or colonized patients to other patients, hospital visitors, and healthcare workers

Types of Isolation Precautions

Transmission-based Precautions

-for patients with documented or suspected infections

-3 Types:

airborne, droplet and contact



Standard Precautions

-Apply to all Patients

--Replace Universal Precautions

Standard Precautions

- Used for *all* patients
- Must wear gloves when touching:
 - Blood
 - All body fluids
 - Nonintact skin
 - Mucous membranes
- Wash hands immediately after glove removal and between patients

Standard Precautions

- **Masks, eye protection, face shield:**
 - Wear during activities likely to generate splashes or sprays
- **Gowns**
 - Protect skin and soiling of clothing
 - Wear during activities likely to generate splashes or sprays
- **Sharps**
 - Avoid recapping of needles
 - Avoid removing needles from syringes by hand
 - Place used sharps in puncture –resistant containers

Airborne Precautions

- Designed to prevent airborne transmission of droplet nuclei or dust particles containing infectious agents
- For patient with documented or suspected:
 - Measles
 - Tuberculosis (primary or laryngeal)
 - Varicella (*airborne + contact*)
 - Zoster (disseminated or immunocompromised patient; *airborne and contact*)
 - SARS (*Contact+airborne*)

Airborne Precautions

- **Room:**
 - Negative pressure
 - Private
 - Door kept closed
- **Mask**
 - Orange 'duckbill' mask required to enter room

Empiric Use of Airborne Isolation

- Vesicular rash (*airborne+contact*)
- Maculopapular rash with coryza and fever
- Cough + fever + upper lobe pulmonary infiltrate
- Cough + fever + any infiltrate + HIV infection

Droplet Precautions

- Designed to prevent droplet (larger particle) transmission of infectious agents when the patient talks, coughs, or sneezes
- For documented or suspected:
 - Adenovirus (*droplet+contact*)
 - Group A streptococcal pharyngitis, pneumonia, scarlet fever (in infants, young children)
 - H. *Influenza* meningitis, epiglottitis
 - Influenza, Mumps, Rubella
 - Meningococcal infections

Empiric Use of Droplet Precautions

- Meningitis
- Petechial/ecchymotic rash and fever
- Paroxysmal or severe persistent cough during periods of pertussis activity

Contact Precautions

- Used to prevent transmission of epidemiologically important organisms from an infected or colonized patient through direct (touching patient) or indirect (touching surfaces or objects in the patient's environment) contact

Contact Precautions

- For suspected or documented:
 - Adenovirus (*contact+droplet*)
 - Infectious diarrhea in diapered/incontinent patients
 - Group A strep wound infections
 - MDR bacteria (MRSA, VRE)
 - Viral conjunctivitis
 - Lice, scabies
 - RSV infection
 - Varicella (*Contact+airborne*)
 - Zoster (disseminated or immunocompromised; *contact+ airbrone*)
 - SARS (*Contact+airborne*)

Empiric Contact Precautions

- Acute diarrhea of likely infectious etiology, patient diapered/incontinent
- Diarrhea in an adult with recent antibiotic use
- Vesicular rash (contact+airborne)
- History of infection or colonization with MDR organisms
- Respiratory infections in infants/young children
- Skin, wound, urinary tract infection in a patient with recent hospital or nursing home stay where MDR organisms are prevalent
- Abscess or draining wound that cannot be covered

Handwashing



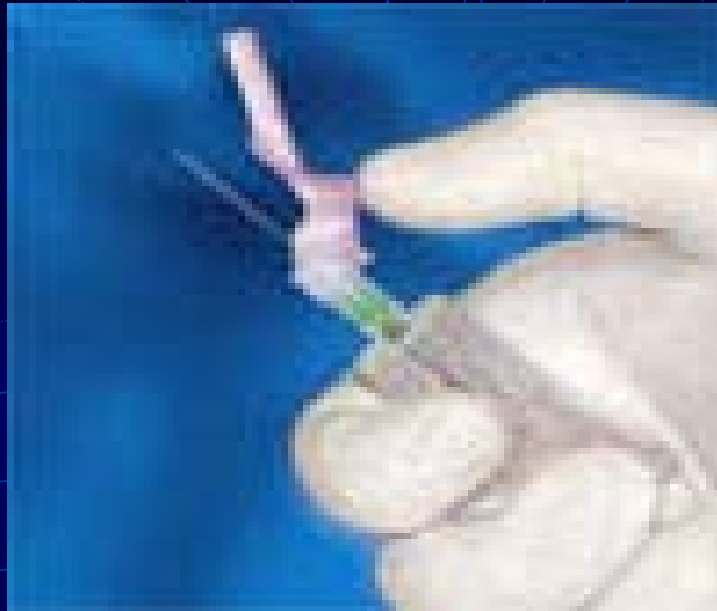
Phlebotomy Safety Devices



BD Safety-Lok butterfly- product information and usage

http://www.bd.com/vacutainer/pdfs/safety-lok_bcs_refercard_APT0371.pdf

Phlebotomy Safety Devices



BD Eclipse: for information and usage instructions

http://www.bd.com/vacutainer/pdfs/eclipse_bcn_VS5794.pdf

Needlestick or Blood/Body Fluid Exposure

	MCVH	VAMC
Working Hours	Call Employee Health	Call Employee Health
After hours, weekends, holidays	Page PEP team beeper#4508	Report to ER