Hand Hygiene

Hand hygiene is performed:
- Before and after each patient contact.
- Before performing invasive procedures.
- Before preparing, handling, serving or eating food.
- After care involving body fluids and before moving to another activity.
- Before putting on and after taking off gloves and other PPE.
- After personal body functions (e.g., blowing one’s nose).
- Whenever hands come into contact with secretions, excretions, blood and body fluids.
- After contact with items in the patient’s environment.
- Whenever there is doubt about the necessity for doing so.

Patient Placement

- Single room with own toileting facilities.
- Door may remain open.
- Whenever possible, for aerosol-generating medical procedures (AGMPs), perform the procedure in an Airborne Infection Isolation Room with the door closed.

For more see: IPAC Requirements for AGMPs.

Environment and Equipment

- Dedicate routine equipment to the patient (e.g., stethoscope, thermometer).
- Clean and disinfect all equipment that comes out of the room.
- All high-touch surfaces in the patient's room must be cleaned twice daily.
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Wear a mask and eye protection or face shield within 2 meters of the patient.
- For AGMPs, replace mask with N95 respirator.
- Wear gloves when entering the patient’s room or bed space.
- Wear a long-sleeved gown when entering the patient’s room or bed space.
- **Wearing gloves is NOT a substitute for hand hygiene.**

On leaving the room or bed space:

- Remove gloves and gown and perform hand hygiene.
- Remove eye protection and mask and perform hand hygiene.

For more see: [Recommended Steps for Putting on and Taking off PPE](https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/eRepository/RPAP_All_HealthCare_Settings_Eng2012.pdf).

Patient Transport

- Avoid any unnecessary transport of patient outside of room.
- Patient to wear a mask during transport.
- Only if the patient cannot tolerate wearing a mask, transport staff should wear a mask and eye protection.
- Transport staff should consult with the facility IPAC designate for additional instructions.
- Clean and disinfect equipment used for transportation after use.

Visitors

- Visitors must perform hand hygiene before entry and on leaving the room.
- Visitors to wear a mask, eye protection, a long-sleeved gown and gloves when entering the room of a patient with COVID-19.
- Visitors to remove protective apparel upon leaving the room.

Sources


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