



Performing a Risk Assessment Related to Routine Practices and Additional Precautions

An individual assessment of each client/patient/resident's potential risk of transmission of microorganisms must be made by all health care providers and other staff who come into contact with them. Based on that risk assessment and a risk assessment of the task, one may determine appropriate intervention and interaction strategies, such as hand hygiene, waste management, use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and client/patient/resident placement, that will reduce the risk of transmission of microorganisms to and from the individual.²⁸ When a client/patient/resident has undiagnosed symptoms or signs of an infection, interventions must be informed by organizational requirements.

Risk assessment steps to be performed by a Health Care Provider to determine an individual's risk of transmission of infectious agents and the rationale for associated protective measures

PERFORM A RISK ASSESSMENT Decision #1: Do I need protection for what I am about to do because there is a risk of exposure to blood and body fluids, mucous membranes, non-intact skin or contaminated equipment? **Individual Risk Assessment #1** Decision #2: Do I need protection for what I am about to do because the client/patient/resident has undiagnosed symptoms of infection? **Individual Risk Assessment #2** Decision #3: What are the organizational requirements for this client/patient/resident who has an identified infection? **Organizational Risk Assessment**

RATIONALE FOR ACTION

Intervention and Interaction #1:

I must follow Routine Practices because there is a risk that I might expose myself to an infection that is transmitted via this route, or expose the client/patient/resident to my microorganisms (see algorithms)

Intervention and Interaction #2:

I must alert someone about the client/patient/resident who has symptoms so that a diagnosis may be made, and I must determine what organizational requirements are to be put in place to protect myself and others.

Intervention and Interaction #3:

I must follow the procedures proscribed for this infection to protect myself and others (see Appendix N).







Routine Practices Risk Assessment Algorithm for All Client/Patient/Resident Interactions



