

Droplet Precautions: Key Reminders for Health Care Workers

Respiratory Etiquette for Patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If the patient is coughing or sneezing, ask them to put on a mask and clean their hands (alcohol-based hand rub is preferred) ▪ Instruct and assist patients to practice cough etiquette: cover nose and mouth during coughing or sneezing with a tissue or their elbow ▪ Dispose of tissue appropriately and clean their hands 	
Patient Placement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All patients require a single occupancy room with an attached bathroom ▪ Post a Droplet Precautions sign at the entry to the room ▪ Keep the door closed ▪ If an aerosol-generating procedure (AGP) is performed (e.g., endotracheal tube insertion, tracheotomy, bronchoscopy, nebulized therapy, aerosolized high-flow O₂), place the patient on Airborne Precautions in a negative pressure room (preferably with an ante room). See the AGP SOP for details ▪ If a negative pressure room is not available to conduct an AGP, add an Aerosol Generating Procedure sign at the entry to the private room during the procedure and leave the sign in place for one hour post-procedure 	
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Droplet Precautions PPE are required for all entries to the room: gown, procedure mask, protective eyewear/face shield, gloves ▪ Droplet Precautions PPE is required for all entries to the room: gown, procedure mask, protective eyewear/face shield, gloves ▪ PPE must be removed inside the patient’s room, at least 2 meters away from the patient. If an N95 respirator is used, it must be removed outside the patient’s room after the door is closed ▪ PPE can be discarded in the regular garbage 	
Hand Hygiene	Donning PPE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Perform hand hygiene ▪ Put on gown ▪ Put on a procedure mask (N95 respirator for AGPs) ▪ Put on protective eyewear/face shield ▪ Put on gloves 	Doffing PPE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remove gloves ▪ Perform hand hygiene ▪ Remove gown ▪ Perform hand hygiene ▪ Remove eye protection/face shield ▪ Remove procedure mask/N95 respirator ▪ Perform hand hygiene
Cohorting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Decisions regarding isolation and/or cohorting within FH acute care facilities are made by IPC, the site Medical Microbiologist and site leadership ▪ If there are several patients with respiratory illness, they may be cohorted in a multi-occupancy room in consultation with IPC ▪ Consult your local IPC practitioner to determine if dedicated/cohorted nursing is required 	

DROPLET PRECAUTIONS

Bed #

Families and Visitors:  **Please report to staff before entering**

Clean hands before entering and when leaving room



Clean hands with
A) hand foam/gel or B) soap and water

Wear mask and eye protection when within **2 metres** of patient

If helping to care for the patient, put on gown and gloves before entering room, and remove them before leaving room.



Staff - Required:

- Point of Care Risk Assessment
- Gown and gloves
- Procedure mask with eye protection when within 2 metres of patient
- Keep 2 metres between patients



KEEP SIGN POSTED UNTIL ROOM CLEANED
HOUSEKEEPER will remove sign after Isolation Discharge cleaning



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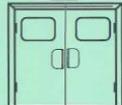
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AEROSOL GENERATING PROCEDURE IN PROGRESS

In addition to Droplet Precautions:



Put on N95 respirator before entering patient room or bed space



Keep door closed or pull curtains around bed space until 1 hour after procedure complete

Date and time of procedure	
AGP signage can be removed at: (Time at end of procedure + 1 hour post)	
Unit staff initials	

Isolation Discharge Clean must be completed before admitting another patient into that bed space.



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Reference: [Infection Prevention and Control/ Acute Care Manual/Droplet Precautions](#)