

Chart of Pandemic Influenza Precautions for VA Health Care Facility Staff

Airborne Infection Isolation and Contact Precautions, in addition to Standard Precautions

This combination of precautions offers the best protection for health care facility staff, especially at the onset of a pandemic before transmission patterns are well understood.

| | Hand cleaning | Gloves | Gowns | Eye protection | Respiratory protection | Room |
|---|--|---|----------------------|---|---|---|
| Airborne Infection Isolation + Contact | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Between patients Immediately after glove removal Whenever hands may be contaminated by secretions/body fluids Use an alcohol-based hand rub or wash with antimicrobial soap and water | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When caring for patients When touching areas/handling items contaminated by patients | With patient contact | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When within 3 feet of patient With aerosol-generating procedures | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use Fit-tested N95 mask OR Positive air purifying respirator (PAPR) or fit-tested elastomeric respirator Patients wear <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masks during transport. Use masks with elastic straps; avoid masks that tie on. | Negative airflow private room when possible Air exhausted outdoors or through high-efficiency filtration. Door kept closed. |

Droplet Precautions, in addition to Standard Precautions

This combination of precautions should be used if droplet transmission appears to be the common mode of transmission or when incapable of using Airborne Infection Isolation and Contact Precautions.

| | Hand cleaning | Gloves | Gowns | Eye protection | Respiratory protection | Room |
|----------------|--|---|--------------|------------------------------------|--|---|
| Droplet | Between patients Immediately after glove removal Whenever hands may be contaminated by secretions/body fluids Use an alcohol-based hand rub or wash with antimicrobial soap and water | When caring for patients When touching areas/handling items contaminated by patients | Not required | With aerosol-generating procedures | Wear surgical or procedure-type masks in patient rooms or when within 3 feet of patients; change when moist Wear fit-tested N95 respirator or equivalent with aerosol-generating procedures Patients wear Masks during transport. Use masks with elastic straps; avoid masks that tie on. | Private room when possible Door may be open. |

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