

Standard Precautions

USED FOR THE CARE OF ALL PATIENTS

Applies to blood, all body fluids, non-intact skin and mucous membranes
Utilize transmission-based precautions (airborne, contact, droplet) in addition to standard precautions as indicated



Wash hands for 20 seconds with soap and water or use an alcohol based hand gel

- When touching blood, body fluids, secretions, excretions, and contaminated equipment
- After gloves are removed
- Before and after patient contact
- Alcohol-based hand gel is not recommended for use when the skin is visibly soiled



Wear gloves

- When touching blood, body fluids, secretions, excretions, mucous membranes, non-intact skin and contaminated items/equipment

Change gloves

- Between tasks/procedures on the same patient after contact with contaminated material

Remove gloves

- Promptly after use
- Before touching non-contaminated items and environmental surfaces



Wear a mask, eye protection or face shield

- To protect mucous membranes of the eyes, nose and mouth during procedures likely to generate splashes/sprays of blood, body fluids, secretions and excretions



Wear a gown

- During procedures likely to generate splashes or sprays of blood, body fluids, secretions or excretions

Remove gown

- Promptly after use to avoid transfer of microorganisms to other patients or environments



Cleaning and disinfection

- Clean common-use equipment before removing from room



Avoid/prevent injury:

- Utilize safety needles
- Utilize needleless intravenous connections
- Sharps containers should be leak-proof and puncture resistant
- Never recap used needles
- Do not bend, break or remove used needles by hand
- Place used needles/sharps in appropriate sharps containers
- Never attempt to remove sharps from containers
- Do not eat, drink, handle contact lenses, apply cosmetics or lip balm in any patient care area
- Staff with exudative lesions or weeping dermatitis should not provide direct patient care until the condition has resolved