## **Airborne Precautions**

#### In addition to Routine Practices

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#### **Accommodation**

- Negative pressure single room, anteroom (if possible) and bathroom.
- Facilities without negative pressure rooms should consult IPC and the <u>Management of Patients Requiring</u>
  <u>Airborne Isolation (Algorithm for facilities without Airborne Isolation Rooms)</u> for management of suspected or confirmed cases that require Airborne Precautions.
- Airborne Precautions sign visible on entry to room.
- Room door must be shut at all times (except when entering or leaving the room).



## Hand hygiene

- Perform <u>hand hygiene</u> using alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) or soap and water as described in <u>Routine</u>
  Practices.
- Perform <u>hand hygiene</u>:
  - o before accessing and putting on an N95 respirator;
  - o after taking off an N95 respirator.
- Educate patients<sup>1</sup> and visitors about how and when to use hand hygiene products.



### Personal protective equipment: N95 respirators

- All staff and physicians require fit-testing for an N95 respirator.
- All family or visitors must wear and seal-check an N95 respirator.
- Proper wearing of an N95 respirator includes:
  - o putting on the respirator before entering the patient's room;
  - o molding the metal bar over the nose;
  - o ensuring an airtight seal on the face, over top of the nose and under the chin;
  - o leaving the room and changing the respirator when it becomes moist;
  - o removing the respirator after leaving the patient's room by touching elastics only;
  - o not wearing respirator around the neck.

Refer to the AHS Donning & Doffing PPE posters for details on careful removal & disposal of N95 respirators.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Patients are all persons who receive or have requested health care or services. The terms "client" or "resident" may also be used, depending on the health care setting.



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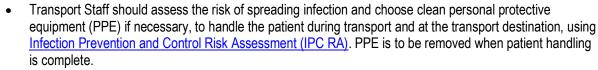
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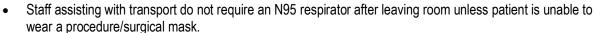




## Patient ambulation outside room, bed space or transfer

- Patients should leave the room or bed space for essential purposes only, exceptions require IPC consultation.
- Before patients leave their room, educate or assist them to:
  - o perform hand hygiene;
  - o put on a procedure/surgical mask;
  - o avoid public common areas such as cafeterias.
- Notify the receiving area of need for Airborne Precautions before departure.







#### **Environmental cleaning**

- Room surfaces and equipment cleaning/disinfection is required on a daily basis or more frequently if directed by IPC using AHS approved products and procedures.
- After patient discharge, transfer or airborne precautions are discontinued:
  - o keep room door closed for the minimum time to allow airborne particles to settle;
  - o consult IPC as settle times vary based on facility air exchanges;
  - o the room may be entered for discharge or transfer cleaning after settle time has lapsed.
- If staff must enter before minimum settle time, wear fit-tested N95 respirator and door must remain closed.



#### **Visitors**

- Encourage visitors to perform hand hygiene.
- Instruct family or visitors to wear and seal-check an N95 respirator.
- Airborne Isolation Precautions Family/Visitor information is an additional resource for visitors.
- Keep the number of visitors to a minimum.
  Door must remain closed except when entering or leaving the room.





& Control

