

Quick Guide to Infection Prevention and Control in Community-based Services

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) strategies are designed to help prevent the spread of microorganisms. This quick guide tool is designed to assist healthcare providers in carrying out proper IPC measures at all times, with all clients.

RESOURCES

Add personal contact information for the following:

- Infection Control Professional
- Outbreak Lead, GI
- Outbreak Lead, RESP
- Health Link
- Public Health, TB
- Public Health, Communicable Disease
- Environmental Public Health
- Workplace Health and Safety



Infection Prevention and Control Website:
<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/6410.asp>

HAND HYGIENE

- Use AHS-approved, personal-size alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) when AHS dispensers are not available
- If no sink is available, use a pre-moistened hand towelette to remove visible soil and follow with hand hygiene using ABHR
- Do not leave ABHR in the client's home or where it may be accessed by children or confused individuals
- Do not use client's bar soap or fabric towels; paper towels may be used

POINT OF CARE RISK ASSESSMENT

Before providing care, consider the client, situation, and task to determine the risk of contact with blood, body fluids or substances (e.g., spray from coughing or sneezing, blood, urine; soiled clothing, equipment, or environments). Don appropriate PPE.

ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONS

AIRBORNE PRECAUTIONS

Client stays in separate room with door closed. Dedicate bathroom if possible. Client to wear a procedure mask if out of room or leaving the home for essential healthcare visits.

DROPLET PRECAUTIONS

Client stays in separate room or at least stays greater than two meters from others (door may remain open). Dedicate bathroom if possible. Client to wear a procedure mask if leaving the home for essential healthcare visits.

CONTACT PRECAUTIONS

Dedicate bathroom if possible. Bathroom should be cleaned and disinfected after each use.

ADVICE FOR ALL CATEGORIES (In addition to Routine Practices)

Dishes, Laundry and Environmental Cleaning:

- Refrain from sharing client's used dishes, face cloths, towels, or personal items
- Wash dishes as usual with hot soapy water or dishwasher
- Clean frequently touched surfaces with regular household cleaner/disinfectants at least daily and when visibly soiled
- Wash heavily soiled items separately. Less soiled items do not require special handling. Choose a cycle setting compatible with the fabric. Follow the detergent manufacturer's directions for product amount and water temperature.

Household contacts and visitors:

- Advise susceptible individuals not to visit during the contagious period of the disease
- Instruct family and caregivers on importance of good hand hygiene

DONNING PPE

Refer to the AHS IPC donning poster for sequencing

All categories: Prepare a clean surface to lay out PPE and ensure the surface is away from the client and the client's immediate environment

AIRBORNE PRECAUTIONS

Don fit-tested N95 respirator before entering the residence

DROPLET PRECAUTIONS

Don procedure mask and eye protection at a distance of > 2m from the client

CONTACT PRECAUTIONS

Don gown and gloves

DOFFING PPE

Refer to the AHS IPC doffing poster for sequencing

All categories:

Discard all PPE in regular garbage in the client's home or bag for disposal at the clinic

AIRBORNE PRECAUTIONS

Doff N95 respirator at the doorway, just before leaving the client's residence

DROPLET and / or CONTACT PRECAUTIONS

Doff PPE at a distance > 2m from the client

HANDLING CLIENT CARE ITEMS AND EQUIPMENT

- Separate clean and contaminated supplies and equipment
- Bring minimal supplies into client's space
- Do not return unused supplies, left in the client's home, to the clinic

USED SHARPS TRANSPORT AND DISPOSAL

- Transport upright and out of eyesight in an approved sharps container
- Transport separate from clean supplies
- Refer to local bylaws for client disposal of sharps