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# Standard Precautions for All Patient Care

### WHAT TO KNOW


Standard Precautions are used for all patient care. They're based on a risk assessment and make use of common sense practices and personal protective equipment use that protect healthcare providers from infection and prevent the spread of infection from patient to patient.

## Recommendation details

EXPAND ALL +

<div>Perform hand hygiene.</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Follow <a href="#">hand hygiene recommendations</a> and training for healthcare providers.</li><li>Follow <a href="#">guidelines for hand hygiene</a>.</li><li><a href="#">Training course</a> for hand hygiene.</li><li><a href="#">Clean Hands Count materials</a>.</li></ul></div>	+
<div>Use personal protective equipment (PPE) whenever there is an expectation of possible exposure to an infectious material.</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Follow <a href="#">guidelines for isolation precautions</a>.</li><li>Resources to <a href="#">prevent occupationally-acquired infections</a>.</li></ul></div>	+
<div>Follow respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette principles.</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Follow <a href="#">guidelines for isolation precautions</a>.</li><li><a href="#">Respiratory Hygiene/Cough Etiquette in Healthcare Settings</a>.</li><li><a href="#">Materials for patients</a>, including Cover Your Cough signs.</li></ul></div>	+
<div>Ensure appropriate patient placement.</div>	+

- Follow [guidelines for isolation precautions](#).

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Properly handle, clean and disinfect patient care equipment and instruments/devices. Clean and disinfect the environment appropriately.



- Follow [guidelines for environmental infection control](#).
- Follow [guidelines for disinfection and sterilization](#).
- Use the toolkit for [evaluating environmental cleaning](#).

Handle textiles and laundry carefully.



- Follow [guidelines for environmental infection control](#).

Follow safe injection practices.



- Wear a surgical mask when performing lumbar punctures.
- Properly handle needles and review the [Sharps Safety for Healthcare Settings workbook](#).
- Follow [guidelines for isolation precautions](#).
- Follow [guidelines for infrastructure and routine practices in healthcare personnel](#).
- Follow [guidelines for epidemiology and control of selected infections transmitted among personnel and patients](#).
- Follow [NIOSH healthcare worker information](#).
- [Occupationally-Acquired Infections in Healthcare Settings](#).

READ NEXT

Transmission-based Precautions




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• Transmission-Based Precautions

**CONTENT SOURCE:**  
[National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases \(NCEZID\)](#)



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