

Brant Community Healthcare System



HAND HYGIENE & PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT EDUCATION

General Introduction to Routine Practices



Routine Practices are infection prevention and control practices that are:

- used routinely during all activities
- used for all patients, clients and residents
- used in all health care settings

To help prevent and control the spread of infectious agents.

In this component, you will be able to:



1. Identify indications and proper technique for hand hygiene
2. Describe how PPE helps reduce the risk of infection in the health care environment
3. Assess the need for PPE based on risk assessment

Health Care Provider controls are:



- Measures that you use to protect yourself, clients/patients/residents, co-workers, and visitors from getting an infection
- Based on a risk assessment
- Last line of defense in the Hierarchy of Controls
- Hand hygiene
- Use of PPE, such as gloves, gowns, and facial protection

Hand hygiene is:



- The most important and effective infection prevention and control measure you can do to help prevent health care associated infections
- The responsibility of all individuals involved in health care

HAND HYGIENE



JUST CLEAN YOUR HANDS
LAVEZ-VOUS LES MAINS



The Ontario “Just Clean Your Hands” program recommends:

- using ABHR as the preferred method for hand hygiene when hands are not visibly soiled
- using ABHR because it takes less time and is less harsh on the skin
- Performing hand hygiene according to the “4 Moments for Hand Hygiene”
- Educating Health Care Providers about hand hygiene benefits and proper techniques
- Providing a hand care program

A hand care program includes:



- hand care assessment
- ABHR (alcohol based hand rub) containing moisturizers
- Health Care Provider referral to occupational health or to his/her Health Care Provider if skin integrity is an issue
- hand care moisturizers that will not interfere with ABHR or damage gloves, and is approved by your organization

Hand Hygiene



1. Reduces the risk of infection.



2. Reduces the transfer of Infectious Agents to clients/patients/ residents.



3. Breaks the chain of transmission.

Hand hygiene must be performed:



1. Before preparing, handling, serving or eating food.



2. After personal body functions, such as using the toilet or blowing one's nose.



3. When hands accidentally come into contact with secretions, excretions, blood or body fluids.

In health care, hand hygiene must also be performed:



1. Before putting on and after taking off PPE.



2. Whenever a health care provider thinks his/her hands may be contaminated.



3. As indicated by the “4 Moments for Hand Hygiene”

For those who have direct contact with clients/patients/residents:



- Nails should be clean and short.
- Nail polish, if worn must be fresh and not chipped.
- Artificial nails and nail enhancements are not to be worn
- Rings should be limited to a smooth wedding band
- No projections or mounted stones
- Wrist jewellery should not be worn

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)



- **is used to prevent transmission of infectious agents from:**
 - ✓ Patient - to – patient
 - ✓ Patient - to - health care provider
 - ✓ Health care provider - to – patient
 - ✓ Health care provider – to – health care provider

Personal Protective Equipment



Choice of PPE is based on:

- Is the patient in isolation
- Your risk assessment when the patient is not in isolation
- The likely Mode(s) of Transmission of Infectious Agents

Appropriate Uses of Personal Protective Equipment



- Access PPE without contaminating the container or other items
- Perform hand hygiene before putting on and after taking off PPE
- Put PPE on immediately prior to each activity that requires it
- Remove PPE immediately after the activity or task is complete
- Change PPE between patients



Personal Protective Equipment

Responsibilities of Employers:

Employers Should:

- Provide appropriate PPE suitable to the task
- Provide quick and easy access to PPE
- Have guidelines on PPE in place
- Train health care provider on appropriate PPE use
- Evaluate the quality of PPE



Personal Protective Equipment

Responsibilities of Workers:

Workers should:

- Wear PPE when required
- Report to employer or Group Leader or Team Leader if PPE is not available or not appropriate for the task or if it is damaged

GLOVES:



- Protects hands from infectious agents that may be present in blood, body fluids, non-intact skin, mucous membranes, secretions or excretions
- Protects hands from contaminated equipment or environmental surfaces
- Are available in many types and sizes

Appropriate Uses of Gloves



1. Always change your gloves between patients.
2. Always change your gloves when you go from a “dirty” area or task to a “clean” area or task on the same patient.
3. Always make sure your hands are dry before putting on gloves.
4. Always remove gloves as soon as your task is done.
5. Always remove gloves when you are outside the patient care area.

Gowns:



- Protects your clothing/uniform from infectious agents when a patient is in isolation
- To be used when your risk assessment suggests that a procedure or activity is likely to generate splashes, sprays of blood, body fluids, secretions or excretions

Appropriate Uses of Gowns:



- Always wear a gown with the opening at the back.
- Always tie a gown at the neck and at the waist.
- Always choose a gown that fits you well.
- Always change your gown between patients.
- Always remove your gown before leaving the patients area that you applied the gown for.
- Always get a fresh gown for every entry to the patient area. Never re-use the gown more than once.

Facial Protection:



- Consists of a mask and eye protection
- Protects eyes, nose and mouth from droplet contact with infectious agents

Masks & Respirators



A Mask:

Protects the nose and mouth from:

- Splashes or sprays of blood, body fluids, secretion or excretions
- Droplets from coughing or sneezing patients
- Is to be used when within two metres of a coughing patient

A Respirator:

- Filters out small airborne particles
- Prevents inhalation of airborne infectious agents such as TB

Masks for Patients:



Patients with a new acute respiratory illness who are coughing should wear a surgical/procedure mask:

- When they leave their room for procedures and tests
- In ambulatory clinics, emergency rooms and urgent cares
- In ambulances

Patients and Visitors should never wear an N95 respirator as they are not fit tested

Appropriate Uses of Masks:



1. Always wear a mask that fits your face.
2. Always remove a mask immediately after the task for which it was used for
3. Discard the used mask into the garbage after you use the mask.
4. Never touch the mask while wearing it
5. DO NOT leave a mask around your neck or hanging from your ear or on your forehead.

Eye Protection



Protects the eyes from:

- splashes or sprays of blood, body fluids, secretions or excretions
- droplets from coughing or sneezing patients

Is to be used when within two metres of a coughing patient such as an acute respiratory infection.

Eye Protection:



1. DO NOT wear prescription eye glasses in place of eye protection.
2. DO NOT touch eye protection while wearing eye protection.
3. DO NOT put eye protection on the top of your head when not in use.
4. DO NOT disinfect or reprocess disposable eye protection.



Donning Personal Protective Equipment

(putting on PPE)

1. Perform hand hygiene
2. Put on gown
3. Put on mask or N95 respirator
4. Put on eye protection
5. Put on gloves



Doffing Personal Protective Equipment

(taking off PPE)

1. Remove gloves.
2. Remove gown.
3. Perform hand hygiene.
4. Remove eye protection.
5. Remove mask or N95 respiratory
6. Perform hand hygiene again

Summary



Hand hygiene is the most important and effective infection prevention and control measure you can do to help prevent health care associated infections. Using alcohol-based hand rub is the preferred method for hand hygiene in health care settings.

PPE such as gloves, gowns, facial protection helps to safeguard health care workers and others from infection. The proper sequence of taking off PPE must be followed.

Employers must provide appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and make sure it is easily accessible.

Employees must select and use the appropriate PPE correctly when it is needed and when there is a risk of exposure to an infectious agent.

THANK YOU



QUESTIONS???

**PLEASE CALL ORGANIZATIONAL HEALTH
AT EXT. 4878**