

Inter-Facility Transfer with Precautions (\geq PL2)

Clinical Indications:

1. Maintaining uniform standards of isolation practices within a medical facility and beyond is essential to protect patients and Health Care Workers (HCW) from acquiring contagious diseases and to prevent colonization.
2. Isolation procedures are consistent with the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guideline for isolation precautions in hospitals.
3. These precautions are specific for the proper inter-facility transfer of all patients identified or suspected of being infected with communicable disease. The goal is to establish practical and effective measures for isolating the disease organism, not the patient.

Contraindications:

1. No absolute contraindications

Notes:

1. Patients with any communicable disease shall be transferred only when medically necessary and with the full knowledge and consent of the receiving facility.
2. Transport providers within the system are responsible for providing care in accordance with this policy.

Procedure:

1. All system providers are responsible for complying with isolation precautions, specifically standards and procedures for standard and contact precautions, respiratory precautions, and the similar:
 - 1.1. Precautions may be used in combination for diseases that have multiple routes of transmission.
 - 1.2. Providers will ensure the maximum level of PPE will be available and in sufficient quantity to safeguard providers during any required level of patient treatment.
 - 1.3. Providers will bring the appropriate number of sheets to properly undertake patient and stretcher covering.
 - 1.4. Providers will wear N95 respiratory masks, or greater, when transporting patients with probable, suspected or confirmed cases of serious illness with an airborne microbe including, but not limited to TB, smallpox, SARS, varicella, and measles.
 - 1.5. Appropriate hand hygiene before and after touching the patient.
 - 1.6. The application of precautions will be to a level indicated by the transferring facility. Any disagreement as to the appropriate level of PPE to be utilized will defer to the decision of the transferring facility Infection Preventionist or their designee.
2. Departing Transferring Facility
 - 2.1. Isolated patients are transported only for essential purposes and only using appropriate barriers to prevent transmission.
 - 2.2. Ensure transferring facility has notified the receiving facility of implementation of isolation precautions.
 - 2.3. Put on gown, gloves, and a mask if indicated before going into the patient's room.
 - 2.4. Help the patient on to the stretcher and cover patient with clean sheet. Cover the stretcher rails with sheets. Cover any other areas that will be touched during transport.
 - 2.5. Ensure drainage or infectious area is contained with fresh dressing(s) or impervious coverings prior to transport.
 - 2.6. Remove gown, gloves, and mask (if worn) as you exit the door of the patient's room.
 - 2.7. Wash hands or use alcohol based hand sanitizer.
 - 2.8. Begin movement to vehicle via the designated area by the least traveled route.
 - 2.9. There is no need for PPE precautions except as specified above.
 - 2.10. Place patient into the vehicle.
 - 2.11. Use Standard Precautions. Don appropriate PPE for anticipated procedures that may be initiated during vehicle transport.

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- 2.12. Non-medical personnel should not be permitted in the patient care compartment during transport.
3. Arriving at Receiving Facility
 - 3.1. Re-apply a clean patient cover sheet. Re-cover the stretcher rails with clean sheets. Re-cover any other areas that will be touched during transport.
 - 3.2. Remove PPE upon exiting the vehicle and upon entrance into the receiving medical facility.
 - 3.3. Ensure PPE is disposed of in an appropriate container.
 - 3.4. Begin movement to the patient's destination traveling directly to the designated area by the least traveled route.
 - 3.5. Providers shall put on the appropriate PPE which may include gown, gloves, and mask when assisting the patient onto the receiving stretcher or bed.
 - 3.6. Cover the patient with another clean sheet.
 - 3.7. Remove linen from stretcher and dispose of in the appropriate container.
 - 3.8. Utilizing a disinfectant saturated cloth:
 - 3.8.1. Wipe down stretcher
 - 3.8.2. Stretcher handrails
 - 3.8.3. Other potentially contaminated stretcher mechanisms
 - 3.8.4. Mattress
 - 3.9. Remove gown, gloves and mask (if worn) at the door of the patient's room.
 - 3.10. Take stretcher into the hall.
 - 3.11. Wash hands or use alcohol based hand sanitizer.
 - 3.12. Clean contaminated environmental surfaces and equipment with approved disinfectant saturated cloth and allow to air dry.