

GUIDE FOR VISITING PATIENTS IN PRECAUTION ROOMS



TYPES OF PRECAUTIONS

Precautions keep patients and visitors safe from spreading germs. There will be a sign at the door of the patient room that explains which precautions you must follow to keep the patient, yourself, and others safe. **The sign also explains what information you should expect from the facility staff.**

Standard Precautions are for everyone and reduce the risk of spreading germs. These steps include:

- Hand hygiene: wash hands with soap and water or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- The use of gowns and gloves if contact with blood, body fluids, or non-intact skin (e.g., rashes or wounds) is likely.
- Wearing masks or eye protection when splash or spray may happen.

Transmission-Based Precautions (also called isolation) help stop the spread of specific germs from one person to another in a healthcare setting. Transmission-based precautions protect certain patients, their families, other visitors, and healthcare workers from specific germs. These precautions may include:

- Limiting the number of visitors or visits.
- Not using patient bathrooms.
- Wearing protective gear called Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Different types of PPE are used depending on the situation. such as:



Gowns



Gloves



A mask or respirator
(e.g. N95).



Eye protection
(e.g. N95).



PLEASE READ THIS BEFORE YOUR VISIT! SAFETY INFORMATION FOR PRECAUTIONS ROOMS

CHECK WITH A HEALTHCARE WORKER BEFORE ENTERING A PATIENT'S ROOM WITH A PRECAUTION SIGN!

DON'T VISIT IF YOU ARE SICK

Do not visit if you are sick or have the following symptoms:



Vomiting



Diarrhea



Fever



Cough/Sneezing



Rash

If you must visit while sick call ahead to talk with healthcare staff about how to avoid spreading germs while visiting.

DO NOT BRING FOOD, DRINK, OR FLOWERS

Visitors should not eat, drink or bring flowers to precaution rooms. Always check first with healthcare staff about any exceptions.



USE SOURCE CONTROL WHEN REQUIRED

Source control is a well-fitting face-covering, facemask, or respirator that covers a person's mouth and nose to prevent the spread of germs.



PRACTICE HAND HYGIENE

Wash or sanitize your hands when entering and leaving the room to avoid bringing in or carrying out germs.



The soap, water, and hand sanitizer in patient rooms are for everyone to use. Encourage healthcare workers to practice hand hygiene before they care for the patient. You could say: "Will you please perform hand hygiene?"

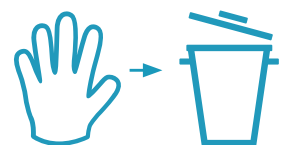
Clean your hands often, especially:

- After coughing or sneezing.
- After touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.
- After using the restroom.
- Before and after eating or drinking.

Use your elbow or sleeve to cover your cough or sneeze.



Throw used gloves away and then clean your hands after taking gloves off. Do not wear gloves outside of the room.



HOW TO HANDLE PRECAUTION PATIENTS AFTER DISCHARGE HOME

Follow the discharge planning instructions from the patient's healthcare team. It will explain how to stay safe if there is a risk of spreading germs.