



## Hand Hygiene:

Good hand hygiene is the **single most important** method of preventing the spread of microorganisms that can make us sick. Hand hygiene should be performed by patients and visitors using alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water:

### 1 Before Entering a Room

**Why:** To protect **you and the patient and the patient's environment** from harmful germs carried on your hands

### 2 After Using the Washroom or Body Fluid Exposure

**Why:** To protect yourself and the healthcare environment from harmful germs

### 3 Before Eating or Assisting with Care

**Why:** To protect **you and the patient and the patient's environment** from harmful germs carried on your hands

### 4 After Leaving the Room

**Why:** To protect yourself and healthcare environment from harmful germs



## Areas Most Often Missed During Hand Washing

-  Most Often Missed
-  Often Missed
-  Less Often Missed



Taylor, L., Nursing times 74, 54 (1978)

# Curtain Isolation and Cohorting








The infection control team evaluates the risk of transmission for all patients requiring additional precautions. You may see patients in “Curtain Isolation”, meaning isolation in a semi-private room, when the risk of disease transmission is very low. You may also see “Cohorting” of patients with the same microbes/condition together, where both patients will remain in isolation. These decisions are carefully made to ensure patient safety. Please speak with your nurse if you have any additional questions.

# Isolation and Personal Protective Equipment

Additional precautions, or “Isolation” are used when a patient is known or suspected to have an infectious disease. Additional precautions include required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and patient to protect staff, visitors, and other patients.



**Visitors: Please seek instructions from the Nurse prior to visiting.**

| Type of Precaution   | PPE Required                       | Additional Considerations  |
|--|------------------------------------|--|
|  <b>CONTACT PRECAUTIONS</b><br><small>Visitors: Please follow directions below</small>  | Gown and Gloves                    | Patients with the same reason for isolation may be <b>placed</b> together in the same room.  |
|  <b>CONTACT PLUS PRECAUTIONS</b><br><small>Visitors: Please follow directions below</small>  | Gown and Gloves                    | Room will be cleaned with bleach.  |
|  <b>DROPLET CONTACT PRECAUTIONS</b><br><small>Visitors: Please follow directions below</small>  | Mask, Eye protection, Gown, Gloves | Patients must wear mask whenever leaving the room.   |
|  <b>DROPLET CONTACT PLUS PRECAUTIONS</b><br><small>Visitors: Please follow directions below</small>   | Mask, Eye protection, Gown, Gloves | Patients must wear mask whenever leaving room. Room will be cleaned with bleach.   |
|  <b>AIRBORNE PRECAUTIONS</b><br><small>Visitors: Please speak to Nurse before entering</small><br><small>Negative Pressure Isolation Room: Keep door closed at all times</small>  | Mask                               | Only household members should visit <b>and must be masked</b> . Patients may not leave room unless for medical procedure.            |
|  <b>AIRBORNE CONTACT PRECAUTIONS</b><br><small>Negative Pressure Isolation Room: Keep door closed at all times</small><br><small>Visitors: Please speak to Nurse before entering</small><br><small>Nurses: Perform a daily check to ensure that the negative pressure is functioning properly</small>           | Mask, Gown, Gloves                 | Only household members should visit <b>and must wear protective gear</b> . Patients may not leave room unless for medical procedure. |
|  <b>AIRBORNE + DROPLET CONTACT PRECAUTIONS</b><br><small>Negative Pressure Isolation Room: Keep door closed at all times</small><br><small>Visitors: Please speak to Nurse before entering</small><br><small>Nurses: Perform a daily check to ensure that the negative pressure is functioning properly</small> | Mask, Eye protection, Gown, Gloves | Only household members should visit <b>and must wear protective gear</b> . Patients may not leave room unless for medical procedure. |