

Do one thing differently:

Standard Precautions

Every Person, Every Time: Standard Precautions

By practicing the following standard precautions with every person in your care, every time, you are proactively protecting yourself and everyone in your care from the spread of infection:

1. Wash hands and don (put on) clean gloves any time contact with body fluids or contaminated items is suspected or known.
2. Wash hands after contact with blood, body fluids, secretions, excretions and contaminated objects. Carefully remove soiled gloves and perform hand hygiene immediately.
3. Wear a mask, eye protection or a face shield if splashes or sprays of blood, body fluids, secretions or excretions are expected.
4. Wear a clean, well-fitting non-sterile gown if care is likely to result in splashes or sprays of blood, body fluids, secretions or excretions. The gown is intended to protect clothing.
5. Carefully handle equipment that is soiled with blood, body fluids, secretions or excretions to prevent the transfer of micro-organisms to others and to the environment.
6. Carefully handle, transport and process linen soiled with blood, body fluids, secretions or excretions to prevent contamination of clothing and transfer of micro-organisms to others and the environment.
7. Prevent injuries from used equipment (i.e., scalpels or needles) and place in puncture-resistant containers.

Use these evidence-based clinical sources for practice guidance:

[Standard Precautions for All Patient Care \(CDC\)](#)

[Clinical Safety: Hand Hygiene for Healthcare Workers \(CDC\)](#)

[Considerations for Selecting Protective Clothing Used in Healthcare for Protection Against Micro-organisms in Blood and Body Fluids \(CDC\)](#)

[Considerations for Reducing Risk: Surfaces in Healthcare Facilities \(CDC\)](#)

[Stop Sticks Campaign \(CDC\)](#)

[Isolation Precautions Guideline \(CDC\)](#)

[On-Demand Trainings & Nursing Home Resources \(CDC\)](#)

[Hand Hygiene \(HQIN\)](#)

