

Clinical Practice Process Improvement Tool: Isolation Precautions

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Functional Area:		Start Date:	Overall Auditors:	
Module: Contact Precautions	PIT			
Date:	Auditors:			

Standard: Evidence based best practice is being consistently applied to prevent transmission of infection

Question Set: Contact Precautions PIT - Contact Precautions Observation: 1						
	Question	Guidance	Yes	No	N/A	Comment
1	Are patients/residents in contact isolation in a single room or appropriate cohort?	Identify all patients/residents on contact precautions. A cohort must consist of patients/residents with the same diagnosed infection.				
2	If a single room is not available and a cohort is not feasible is there a documented risk assessment of the patient/resident?	Check documentation.				
3	Does the room have doors that can be closed to separate it from other patients/residents?	Visually check.				
4	Are staff/visitors made aware of any additional precautionary measures?	In an Acute setting check for notice on door indicating that contact precautions are in place. In other settings check procedure in place for informing staff and visitors.				
5	Is personal protective equipment available to staff before they enter the room?	Check for aprons/gowns and gloves on a trolley outside room or if this is not appropriate due to risk of client group ask staff to describe procedure.				
6	Are hand hygiene facilities available and accessible within and outside the room?	Check all patients/residents on contact precautions For cohorts: 1 hand wash basin per room (4 beds in acute settings) and alcohol handrub at the point of care i.e. on the bed or personal dispenser.				
7	Is hand hygiene performed at each of the WHO 5 moments? (90)	Check that the correct hand hygiene procedure is used.				
8	Is a dedicated/en-suite toilet facility or an allocated commode available for use by the patient/resident?	Check all patients/residents on contact precautions.				
9	Is reusable equipment dedicated for the patient/resident's use?	Check equipment e.g. hoist sling, monitoring equipment etc.				
10	Is personal protective equipment worn when in contact with the patient/resident or their immediate environment?	Check that staff are wearing gloves and aprons/gowns.				
11	Is personal protective equipment removed and disposed of in the room?	Observe staff members leaving a contact precautions area.				
12	Is hand hygiene performed after removal of personal protective equipment and prior to leaving the room?	Observe staff members leaving a contact precautions area. Moment 5 - after contact with patient surroundings				



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Ques	Question Set: Contact Precautions PIT - Contact Precautions Obse						
	Question	Guidance	Yes	No	N/A	Comment	
13	Is the patient/resident aware of the rationale for their placement on contact precautions?	Check all patients/residents on contact precautions.					
14	Is the patient/resident and or relative provided with a relevant information leaflet where available?	Check for leaflets e.g. MRSA, Clostridium difficile, Norovirus.					
15	Is the patient/resident's environment cleaned daily with a suitable detergent and/or disinfectant?	Check local policy for appropriate cleaning agent.					
16	Is separate colour coded cleaning equipment in use for contact precautions areas/rooms?	Check local policy for colour coding.					
17	Is an assessment of the ongoing need for contact precautions made daily and this documented?	Review patient/resident records.					
18	Is waste discarded into the appropriate waste stream according to local policy? (23)	Observe practice.					

Question Set Comments/Recommendations for Contact Precautions PIT - Contact Precautions

- Department of Health (2006) Health Technical Memorandum 07-01: Safe management of healthcare waste. www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_073328.pdf
- 90 World Health Organisation (2009) Guidelines on hand hygiene in health care. Geneva, Switzerland: World Health Organisation