

Infection Control

Information to Prepare for Annual Testing



“It is the policy of North Big Horn Hospital to continually stress maintenance of good personal hygiene habits and individual responsibility for infection control. The Infection Control Nurse will also help identify...occupational risks related to employment. The infection control program will...contain costs by...preventing infectious disease that results in absenteeism and disability.”



North Big Horn Hospital District

is dedicated to providing a safe environment for all health care workers, as well as for all patients, residents, or other customers whom we serve.

tell me about

standard precautions...

1. Assumes all blood & body fluids are infectious
2. Were previously called "Universal Precautions"
3. Everyone is treated the same—as if they are infectious
4. Help to keep all of us safe!
5. Requires us to learn about & use PPE
6. Do not protect against every route of transmission.
7. Expanded precautions may be needed for further protection.



Standard precautions are a set of infection control practices used to prevent transmission of diseases that may be acquired through contact with blood or other body fluids, mucous membranes, & non-intact skin (including a rash). These measures are to be used when providing care to any individual, whether or not they appear infectious or symptomatic.

OSHA says:

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is specialized clothing or equipment worn by an employee for protection against infectious material.

Don (put on) PPE before contact with the patient

Use it carefully & correctly—don't spread contamination!

Remove it & discard it inside the room, carefully and correctly

Remove respirator outside the room

Immediately perform hand hygiene (wash or cleanse your hands)

gloves



PPE used in Healthcare



gowns & aprons



face shield



goggles



masks & respirators



N95 respirators are for airborne Respiratory diseases (TB). They must be "fit tested" for each individual

Basic PPE for Standard Precautions



Gloves – Use for possible contact with blood, body fluids, secretions, excretions, contaminated items; for touching mucus membranes and non-intact skin. They are not completely barrier proof and you should always wash your hands after removing them.



If you do multiple procedures with a patient, change gloves & perform hand hygiene between procedures.



Gowns – Use during procedures and patient care activities when contact with clothing/exposed skin with blood/body fluids, secretions, or excretions is anticipated



Mask and goggles or a face shield – must be worn if fluids could splash, spray, or be coughed into your eyes, nose, or mouth. Use during patient care activities likely to generate splashes or sprays of blood, body fluids, secretions, or excretions

Using PPE Safely






- Don (put on) PPE before entering the room & in the correct sequence—gown>mask>goggles or face shield>gloves.
- Remove & dispose of PPE before leaving the room and in the correct sequence—gloves>goggles or face shield>gown>mask or respirator.
- Learn & be aware of “clean” & “contaminated” areas of PPE
- Keep gloved hands away from your face
- Limit surfaces and items that you touch
- Remove gloves if they become torn or grossly contaminated
- Perform hand hygiene any time gloves are removed
- Gloves are not impermeable: infectious particles can still contaminate your skin.
- See the infection control nurse or your manager for more education in the use of PPE.
- Discard all used PPE appropriately.

Handwashing~ the single most important thing
you can do to prevent infection~



Hand Hygiene: the single most important thing you can do to reduce infections in the work place.



-  “Hand hygiene” refers to either washing with soap & water or using an alcohol based gel.
-  Perform hand hygiene immediately after removing PPE &/or gloves. If hands become visibly soiled during a procedure or during PPE removal, wash hands with soap & water before continuing to remove PPE.
-  Perform hand hygiene before & after any patient care or contact.
-  Perform hand hygiene before eating, drinking, applying make up, when you come to work and when you leave work.
-  Wash your hands about 20 seconds, or long enough to sing “Happy Birthday to You”....twice!

Precautions expanded beyond “standard”



- **Contact:**

Direct: microorganisms are transferred from one person to another

Indirect: transfer of an infectious agent through a contaminated person or object

- **Droplet:** refers to respiratory droplets carrying infectious pathogens, directly from the respiratory tract of an infected person to the susceptible recipient

- **Airborne:** the dissemination of airborne droplet nuclei or small particles in the respirable size range that remain infective over time & distance.



PPE for “expanded” Precautions

- **Contact:** Gown and gloves for contact with patient or their environment of care (e.g. medical equipment, environmental surfaces)
- **Droplet:** Surgical masks and gown within 3 feet of the patient
- **Airborne:**
 - N95 particulate respirator, must be used for TB patients
 - Negative pressure isolation room
 - Our facility will transfer an airborne isolation patient, such as someone with TB to another facility.



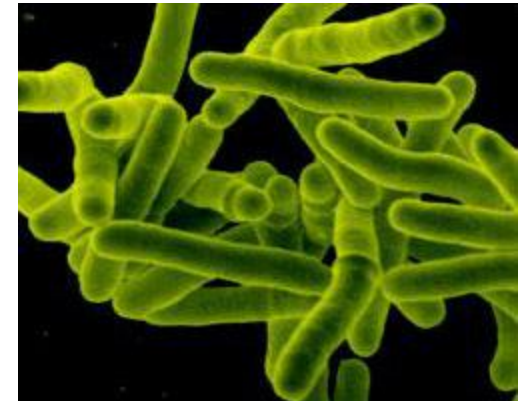
Cover Your Cough!

- Cover your cough and have your co-workers and patients cover their coughs.
- Try not to cough into your hands, instead, cough into your sleeve or a tissue.
- Patients with infectious coughs should cover their cough and wear a mask when leaving their room.
- Having the patient in a private room and keeping the door closed are part of transmission-based precautions.

Tuberculosis Facts

- TB is airborne. People may become infected if they inhale the TB bacteria.
- An N-95 particulate respirator (mask) must be used when caring for a patient with TB
- TB is not spread by touch, such as hand shaking, kissing, sharing food & drink, or touching bed linens or toilet seats.
- TB bacteria can live in your body without making you sick (latent TB infection.)
- Latent (inactive) TB will probably cause you to have a positive TB test.
- People with latent TB are not infectious.
- TB bacteria usually attack the lungs, but may also attack other body parts, such as the spine, kidneys, & brain.

hasTyBug

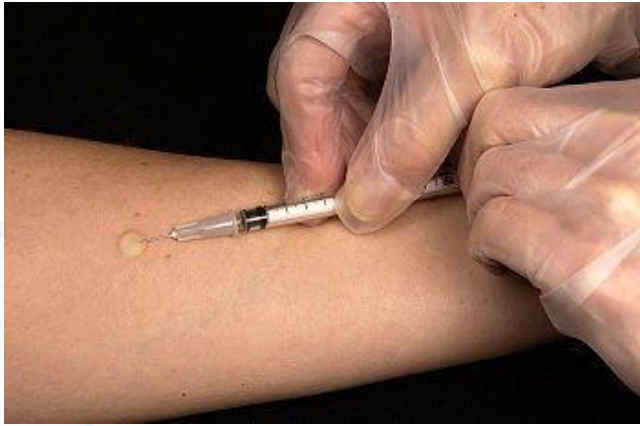


Mycobacterium
Tuberculosis

If not treated
properly, TB
can be fatal~



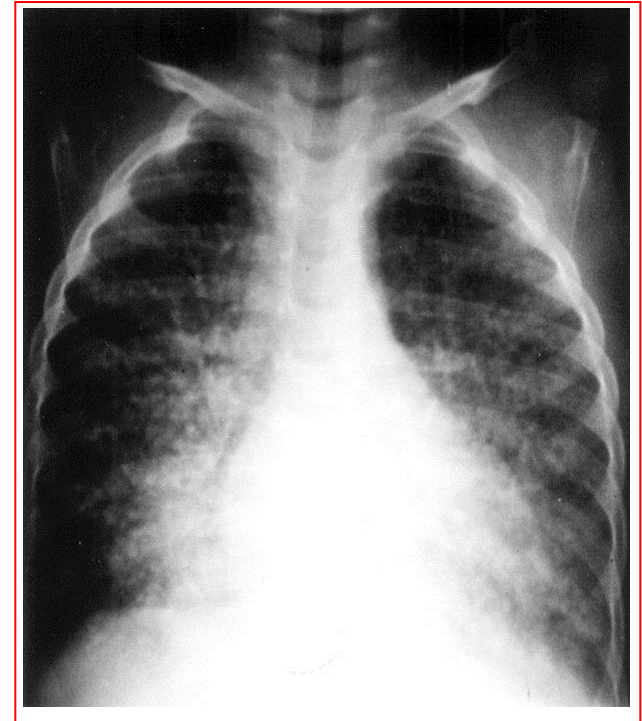
TB Diagnosis



TB infection is diagnosed by a simple skin test, though the test is not foolproof.

If the skin test is positive, a chest x-ray is needed.

People with latent (inactive) TB must have a chest x-ray every 3 years.



TB: Latent or Active?

With latent (inactive) TB, you are not sick and the TB germs are not active. However you may develop TB later. Taking medicine as prescribed for many months will kill the bacteria and prevent you from developing active TB disease.

TB bacteria become active if your immune system can't stop them from growing. When the bacteria are active and multiplying in your body, you have **TB**. It is a serious illness and you may spread it to other people.

Treatment consists of taking several drugs for 6-12 months. It is important to finish the drug regimen to prevent recurrence of TB and to prevent any remaining TB germs from becoming resistant to the drugs.



Bloodborne Pathogens

- **Bloodborne pathogens are viruses, bacteria and other microorganisms that are carried in a person's bloodstream and that can cause disease.**
- **If you are exposed to blood infected with a blood borne pathogen, you may become infected as well.**



These other body fluids may also spread bloodborne pathogens.

- Blood products such as plasma
- Semen
- Vaginal secretions
- Fluid in the uterus of a pregnant woman
- Fluids surrounding the brain, spine, heart and joints
- Fluids in the chest and abdomen
- Other fluids containing visible blood

What if I am exposed to blood or body fluids?

- Wash the exposed area immediately. The area may be “exposed” through an accidental needle stick, or accidental contact with mucous membranes (eyes or mouth, for example.)
- Report the incident by filling out the exposure packet
- The Exposure packet is found in the Exposure Control Manual, which is found in all departments.
- Follow the instructions listed in the packet.

Always notify the department manager when an exposure occurs.



You have reviewed the information
needed to complete the quiz on

Infection Control

Please feel free to go back and study
further to help you successfully
test on this topic.

When you are ready,
please proceed to the test site
and complete the quiz.

