



JOINT COMMISSION JEWELS

Hand Hygiene

- ◆ Wet hands
- ◆ Apply soap
- ◆ Work up a lather, rub lather over every surface
- ◆ Be sure to pay special attention to fingernails and between fingers
- ◆ Wash hands for at least 15-20 seconds
- ◆ Rinse hands under running water
- ◆ Dry hands with a paper towel
- ◆ Use paper towel to turn the faucet off

After a Needle Stick, Splash, or other Body Fluid Exposure.

1. **Decontaminate skin** – wash with soap and water
2. **Eyes, nose or mouth** - rinse with water or saline
3. **Report to supervisor** complete an Employee Injury/Incident Report
4. **Contact:**
Monday-Friday (7am-4pm)
Call Employee Health (994-5368)
Evenings, Nights, Weekends, Holidays
Go directly to the Emergency Department
5. **Follow Up:**
With Employee Health Services

Standard and Transmission Based Precautions

Standard Precautions replaced Universal Precautions and are taken with ALL patients, ALL of the time, REGARDLESS of diagnosis.

Key Points include:

- ◆ Use Standard Precautions for contact with ALL blood and body fluids.
- ◆ Wear gloves whenever contact with blood or body fluids is anticipated.
- ◆ Change gloves when changing tasks and procedures on the same patient.
- ◆ Always wash hands thoroughly after removing gloves.
- ◆ Wear gowns, masks and eye protection if splashing of body fluids is likely.
- ◆ Handle linens carefully so you don't contaminate your clothing and place dirty linen in the appropriate linen hampers.
- ◆ Never recap used needles; use the puncture resistant containers that are available.
- ◆ Anything that is saturated with blood or body fluids is considered medical waste and is to be disposed of in the garbage cans with the red plastic liners.

TRANSMISSION BASED PRECAUTIONS are used in addition to Standard Precautions and are extra precautions taken with patients who have highly contagious or dangerous diseases. There are three categories:

AIRBORNE PRECAUTIONS are taken for diseases that are transmitted through the air. Wear approved respiratory protection (duck billed mask) and place in an appropriate isolation room. Examples include: Tuberculosis, Rubeola and Varicella.

DROPLET PRECAUTIONS are taken for diseases that are transmitted short distances by large droplets. Coughing, talking and suctioning create these droplets. Isolate patient and wear a mask. Examples include: Neisseria meningitis; Pertussis, and Rubella.

CONTACT PRECAUTIONS are taken for diseases that can be transmitted by physical contact with the patient's skin or with items in the room. Wear gloves, gowns and masks as appropriate. Examples include: Multi-drug resistant bacteria such as MRSA, VRE and C. difficile.

Handwashing

Use soap and water when hands are visibly soiled.
Alcohol-based hand rubs may be used if hands are not visibly soiled.

Healthcare workers must wash their hands before and after direct contact with patients, before putting on sterile gloves, after contact with things in the patient's immediate area, after removing gloves, before eating and, of course, after using the restroom.

REMEMBER!

A health care-acquired infection that results in death or loss of major permanent function is considered to be a sentinel event and must be reported!