Transmission Based Precautions

Policy Owner: Epidemiology

POLICY STATEMENT
Transmission-based precautions (TBP) will be initiated and discontinued as per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) guidelines in efforts to prevent disease exposure and transmission amongst patients, visitors, and healthcare workers.

AFFECTED STAKEHOLDERS
Indicate all entities and persons within the Enterprise that are affected by this policy:

☒ Administrative Services
☒ Hired Staff
☒ Housestaff/Residents & Clinical Fellows
☒ Leased staff
☒ Medical Staff (includes Physicians, PAs, APNs)
☒ Patient Care Services (Nursing, PCT’s, Unit Clerks)
☒ Professional Services (Laboratory, Radiology, Respiratory, Pharmacy; etc.)
☒ Vendors/Contractors
☒ Other: Family and visitors.

DEFINITIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cohorting</th>
<th>Grouping or cohabitating patients with same infections.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Standard Precautions</td>
<td>Basic infection control practices used with all patients to prevent transmission of diseases that are spread by contact with blood, body fluids, non-intact skin, and mucous membranes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transmission-based precautions</td>
<td>Additional infection prevention practices applied to patients who are known or suspected to be infected or colonized with certain epidemiologically significant pathogens.</td>
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PROCESS & PROCEDURES
1. Identify potential need for transmission-based precautions before or at the time of admission. Review the admitting diagnosis (es), physician’s assessment and the patient history for exposure and susceptibility to communicable diseases. Utilize
Addendum 1 to determine type of TBP. See the appropriate addendum based on the type of TBP required.

2. Obtain a written physician's order. If the physician cannot be reached, the Nurse Manager, Charge Nurse, Clinic Coordinator, Nursing Supervisor, or Hospital Epidemiology Nurse may initiate TBP. Notify each department providing service to the patient about the precautions.

3. Determine appropriate bed placement based on the type of precautions required; note that private room placement is the preferred placement for all precautions.

4. Order a precautions cart from Central Distribution, specifying the type of precautions and place the cart outside the room.

5. Remove unnecessary supplies and equipment from the room before patient placement in the room.

6. Post a precautions sign on the patient’s medical record, patient’s room door, and over the head of the bed.

7. Place the linen hamper and waste hamper in the patient's room.

8. Remove items to be used in the room from the precautions cart and place these items in the room.

9. Ensure that the plastic covers for the mattress and pillow(s) are intact.

10. Review required precautions with the patient and visitors.

11. See additional addenda for more specific guidance.

REFERENCES, SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS, AND TOOLS

Addenda:
- Addendum 1, Alphabetical Disease List
- Addendum 2, Airborne Precautions
- Addendum 3, CHOG/TBP for Family Members
- Addendum 4, Cleaning Room for Patient on TBP
- Addendum 5, Cohorting Patients
- Addendum 6, Contact Precautions
- Addendum 7, Droplet Precautions
- Addendum 8, Enteric Contact Precautions
- Addendum 9, Expanded Contact Precautions
- Addendum 10, Isolation Cart Inventory
- Addendum 11, CHOG Playroom Visitation
- Addendum 12, Transporting Patients on TBP
RELATED POLICIES
Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan
Personal Protective Equipment
Hand Hygiene Policy
Standard Precautions

APPROVED BY
Chief Executive Officer, AU Medical Center  

Date: 09/06/2016