

Nurses International
Clinical Skills
Information Sheet on 'Airborne Precautions'

Procedure
Perform thorough hand hygiene before and after client care or once coming in contact with the client and client surroundings.
Ensure Proper PPE required for contact isolation: ☐ Wear a gown, gloves, and N95 respirator prior to entering the room for client care. ☐ Wear an N95 mask in presence of the client ☐ Strict adherence to hand hygiene. ☐ Remove N95 respirator after exiting the room. ☐ Do not let immunocompromised persons enter the room. ☐ All care providers should have current vaccines.
Ensure the proper placement of the client: ☐ Requires a private room with negative air pressure is necessary ☐ If a negative pressure room is unavailable, refer to your health authority policy to determine whether a transfer to another facility is mandated. ☐ Keep the door closed whether or not the client is in the room. ☐ Limit transport and movement of an affected client outside of the room unless necessary ☐ The room should have separate bathroom facilities. ☐ Clients with airborne isolation require dedicated equipment. <i>A negative pressure room is needed so that the air inside of the room does not escape outside the room</i>
Rules for visitors: ☐ Instruct visitors to wear gloves, gowns, and surgical masks if providing direct care. ☐ Perform hand hygiene before and aftercare. ☐ May not go into other client rooms
Ensure proper client transfer/transport: ☐ The client is required to wear a surgical mask and follow respiratory etiquette like: ☐ Staff required to wear an N95 mask
Ensure the cleanliness of the isolation room: ☐ The isolation room should be cleaned on a daily basis

Note:

Respiratory Etiquette Includes:

- ☐ Covering the mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
- ☐ Using a mask if the symptoms of flu persist.
- ☐ Using the nearest waste receptacle to dispose of the tissue after use.
- ☐ Performing hand hygiene (e.g., hand washing with non-antimicrobial soap and water, alcohol-based hand rub, or antiseptic handwash) after having contact with respiratory secretions and contaminated objects/materials.

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Reference:

Center for Disease Control (2009, August 1). Infection control: Respiratory Hygiene/Cough Etiquette in Healthcare Settings. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/infectioncontrol/resphgiene.htm>

Doyle. G. R., McCutcheon. J. A. (2015). *Clinical Procedures for Safer Patient Care*. (Ch 1.4, Table 1.3). BCcampus. <https://opentextbc.ca/clinicalskills/>