HYGIENE AND HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS

IV ISOLATION PRECAUTION

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Possibilities of prevention



Isolation precaution

- Syndromic or empiric application (likely pathogen) of transmission-based precautions.
- Based on supposed transmission way:
- 1. Contact transmission direct, indirect
- 2. Droplet transmission
- 3. Airborne transmission
- Only for interhuman transmission! (e.g. not for legionelosis)
- Other possibilities: cohorting, keeping the patient with an existing roommate, ...
- For all persons in a contact with patient or medical equipment!!!

Isolation precautions

Impact on the patient

- anxiety, depression and other mood disturbances,
- perceptions of stigma,
- reduced contact with clinical staff.



Isolation precautions

Impact on the hospital ward

- Specific cleaning precaution
- Dedicated staff
- Organization of rounds (last in the sequence)
 - and e.g. last position in daily surgical schedule
- Individualized patient-care aids
- Increased costs



Indicate individually regarding the compliance capability of the patient and local proposition.



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Contact precautions

- Prevent transmission of infectious agents which are spread by direct or indirect contact with the patient or the patient's environment (MDROs, Clostridium dif., norovirus, ...)
- Patient placement: a single-patient room or in multi-patient rooms, ≥ 1 m spatial separation between beds.
- PPE: gowns, gloves



Droplet precautions

- Prevent transmission of pathogens spread through close respiratory or mucous membrane contact with respiratory secretions (B. pertussis, influenza virus, adenovirus, rhinovirus, N. meningitides, and group A Streptococcus).
- Patient placement: a single patient room or spatial separation of 1.5 m and the curtain between patient beds.
- PPE: mask,....
- Patient transported outside the room: mask (if tolerated) and following Respiratory hygiene/Cough etiquette .

Airborne precautions

- Prevent transmission of infectious agents that remain infectious over long distances when suspended in the air (e.g., rubeola virus [measles], varicella virus [chickenpox], M. tuberculosis, and possibly SARS-CoV)
- Patient placement: a single-patient room that is equipped with special air handling and ventilation capacity (HEPA,...).
- Mask or respirator or other PPE, depending on the disease-specific recommendations.