	The Johns Hopkins Hospital Interdisciplinary Clinical Practice Manual Infection Control	<i>Policy Number</i>	IFC012
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	<i>Subject</i>	Infection Control Management of Exposures of Patients and Personnel to Selected Communicable Diseases	<i>Page</i>
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I. OBJECTIVES


The primary objective of this policy is to guide management of exposures of JHH/JHU patients, personnel and visitors to selected communicable diseases. In this policy, "personnel" is defined as all individuals (excluding visitors or patients) who have patient contact and/or contact with the environment where care is delivered to patients.

II. INDICATIONS FOR USE

This policy will be implemented to control exposures of patients, personnel and visitors to selected communicable diseases.

III. RESPONSIBILITY

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| JHH/JHU Staff | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first person to note an exposure must notify the Hospital Epidemiology and Infection Control Department (HEIC) at ext. 5-8384 on weekdays or by pager (410) 283-3855 at night or on weekends. • If no one is available page the Hospital Epidemiologist. |
| Occupational Health Services (OHS) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate the exposed personnel. • Initiate prophylaxis therapy as indicated. • HEIC and OHS will exclude personnel from duty when necessary. • Follow work restriction recommendations. • OHS will clear personnel for return to duty. |
| Hospital Epidemiology and Infection Control (HEIC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will direct the control of exposure of communicable diseases. • Prevent and assess the nature, extent, and timing of exposures and ensure that appropriate infection control measures are taken. • Implement control measures beyond those specified, when warranted by unusual circumstances such as disease outbreaks. • Contact ancillary or service departments to obtain lists of exposed personnel. • Forward names of exposed personnel to OHS. |

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|---|---|
| Supervisor/Manager/
Charge Nurse/
Designees of all
Departments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist in the control of any exposure. • Ensure that appropriate infection control measures are initiated and that exposed patients and personnel are listed on a Johns Hopkins Hospital Exposure Form (Appendix A). • Notify staff of their exposure and instruct them to call OHS or designated individual for follow-up. |
| Exposed Individuals
Personnel, Patients,
Visitors) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow HEIC and OHS recommendations while on JHH premises in regards to isolation, visitation and work restrictions. |


IV. PROCEDURE

A. Interventions

1. When clinically possible, patients with communicable diseases shall be managed on an outpatient basis in order to reduce the risk of disease transmission in the hospital.
2. Patients admitted to the hospital with communicable diseases shall be placed in the appropriate type of isolation (See Infection Control and Prevention: Standard and Isolation Precautions Policy, Appendix B, IFC023).
3. For patients admitted to the hospital with a known communicable disease transmissible by the airborne or droplet route, arrangements shall be made to have the patient met at the door. The patient shall be asked to wear a standard surgical mask (if tolerated) while moving to a patient care area.
4. Patients admitted to the hospital with a history of having been exposed to a communicable disease prior to admission, shall be placed in isolation on the first day of the potential communicable period before symptoms or signs of the disease develop as outlined in the Infection Control Measures for Exposures of Patient and Personnel to Selected Communicable Diseases (Appendix C).
5. Personnel who are exposed to a communicable disease to which they are susceptible (during work or away from work) must contact OHS, and notify HEIC. During business hours, Occupational Health Services can be reached at 410-955-6211, after hours, on call pager 410-283-9029.

B. Process

1. The Nurse Manager/Designee shall utilize the Johns Hopkins Hospital Exposure Form (Appendix A and B) to establish a list of patients, visitors and personnel who meet the exposure definition as defined by HEIC (Appendix C).
2. This list of exposed patients shall be sent to HEIC. Call 410-955-8384 for name of individual to e-mail exposure list to or fax to HEIC at 410-614-0888.
 - a. The immune status of exposed persons is to be defined by history of disease or appropriate tests as specified by HEIC.
 - b. OHS will obtain appropriate tests on exposed personnel.
 - c. The responsible Authorized Prescriber/Designee) will recommend patient or visitor testing needed.
3. Authorized prescribers must assist in determining the susceptibility of exposed patients, including discharged patients, and in determining needs for prophylactic therapy.
4. Authorized prescribers shall assist in identifying exposed individuals.
5. Infection Control Measures:
 - a. Exposed susceptible patients who cannot be discharged before the time they might become communicable shall be isolated appropriately for the known incubation period outlined in Appendix C. If the disease develops, isolation will be continued (see Isolation Policy, IFC023).

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- b. In certain situations, prophylactic therapy of exposed patients and/or personnel may be indicated.
- c. In certain situations, it maybe necessary to:
 - cohort patients and/or health care workers
 - close patient care units to admissions
 - admit only immune individuals
 - HEIC shall assist in determining if such measures are necessary.
- d. Exposed, susceptible personnel may be excluded from duty for the entire period of potential communicability. OHS and HEIC will determine exclusion from duty.
- e. Family members rooming-in with exposed patient on isolation shall be screened for susceptibility to the disease. Susceptible individuals shall be discouraged from visiting during the period of potential communicability.

V. REPORTABLE CONDITIONS

Any individual noting an exposure must notify the Hospital Epidemiology and Infection Control Department (HEIC) at ext. 5-8384 on weekdays or by pager (410) 283-3855 at night or on weekends. If no one is immediately available page the Hospital Epidemiologist.

VI. EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to the appropriate JHH personnel via the following channels:

1. Updates and revisions will be communicated via Medical Staff and Nursing publications.
2. Nurse Managers, Physician Advisors, Residency Coordinators, Department Chiefs and Department Management will be responsible to train new employees regarding the policy as appropriate, and to communicate updates to the protocol.
3. This policy will be placed in the Interdisciplinary Clinical Practice Manual on the JHH Intranet site www.insidehopkinsmedicine.org/hpo .
4. Paper distributions will be made to the Functional Unit Nursing offices in the event of web access difficulty.
5. This policy will be placed online at www.hopkins-HEIC.org.

VII. SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION


See Also:

Interdisciplinary Clinical Practice Manual

- Infection Control and Prevention: Standard and Isolation Precautions, IFC023

References:

- Pickering, L.K. (Ed.). (2009). Red Book 2009: 2003 Report of the committee on infectious diseases (28th ed.).Chicago: American Academy of Pediatrics.
- Heyman, D. L. (Ed.) (2008). Control of Communicable Diseases Manual (19th ed.). Washington, DC: American Public Health Association.
- Bolyard, E. A., Tablan, O.C., Williams, W.W., Pearson, M.L., Shapiro, C.N., Deitchmann, S.D. and the Hospital Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee. (1998). Guidelines for infection control in healthcare personnel.

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Retrieved August 4, 2004, from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/pdf/guidelines/InfectControl98.pdf>.

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- Medical Care Evaluation Committee

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- Department of Hospital Epidemiology and Infection Control
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Vice President for Medical Affairs

Date:

Date: