

POINT OF CARE RISK ASSESSMENT

Before each patient/resident/client interaction, complete a 'Point of Care Risk Assessment' (PCRA). Ask yourself the following questions to determine the risk of exposure and appropriate Routine Practices and Additional Precautions required for safe care:

- What are the patient's symptoms?
- What is the degree of contact?
- What is the degree of contamination?
- What is the patient's level of understanding and cooperation?
- What is the degree of difficulty of the procedure being performed and my experience level?
- What is my risk of exposure to blood, body fluids, excretions, secretions, non-intact skin and mucous membranes?

Completing a PCRA allows you to determine what personal protective equipment (PPE) to select and wear for each patient interaction. PCRA should be performed even if the patient has been placed on Additional Precautions as more PPE may be required.

Will my hands be exposed to blood, excretions, secretions, tissues, non-intact skin or contaminated items in the environment?



If YES, perform hand hygiene and wear gloves

Will my face be exposed to a splash, spray, cough or sneeze (i.e. when doing wound irrigation, or intubation)? Will I be within 2 metres of a coughing patient?



If YES, wear facial protection (includes mask and protective eyewear)

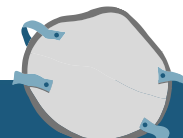
Will my skin or clothing be exposed to splashes or items contaminated with blood, body fluids excretions, secretions or non intact skin?



If YES, wear a gown

Does the patient have a suspected or confirmed airborne illness (e.g. measles, tuberculosis chicken pox)?

Am I performing an aerosol generating medical procedure (AGMP) on a patient with a suspected or confirmed novel or emerging respiratory pathogen?



If YES, wear a fit tested and seal checked respirator (N95)

REMEMBER: Perform Hand Hygiene before and after PPE use so you do not introduce germs to patients or yourself.