

Quick Guide: Safe Transport and Accepting New Admissions/Readmissions

An important part of safe transport of residents and accepting new admissions/readmissions is ensuring key information is communicated. When residents are transported appropriately with clear communication between the discharging facility, accepting facility, and transport agency, the risk of infection transmission is reduced.

Infection Prevention Checklist



1. **When accepting a new admission/readmission, understand the resident's medical history and risk factors for infection:**
 - a. Does the resident have:
 - Any communicable diseases (active infection, colonization, or prior history)? Examples: *Candida auris*, carbapenem-resistant organisms, COVID-19, influenza
 - Behavioral factors such as inability to maintain appropriate hand hygiene?
 - Immunocompromised status?
 - Invasive devices (e.g., central line, urinary catheter, ventilator)
 - Pending screening results (e.g., *Candida auris*, carbapenem-resistant organisms, Group A Streptococcus)
 - Uncontained secretions, excretions, wound drainage, or incontinence (urine or stool)?
 - Wounds?
 - b. Is the resident currently on Transmission-Based Precautions or Enhanced Barrier Precautions?
 - c. Was the resident discharged from a facility with an outbreak?
2. **Follow best practices for resident placement** in accordance with the VDH quick guide: https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/174/2023/10/Quick-Guide_Resident-Placement.pdf
3. **Ensure safe transport by:**
 - a. Disinfecting equipment used to transport a resident (e.g., stretchers, wheelchairs) and other reusable equipment (e.g., blood pressure cuffs).

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- Use an EPA-registered disinfectant (with kill claim against organism resident is suspected/confirmed to have, e.g., [List G](#) for norovirus, [List N](#) for SARS-CoV-2, [List P](#) for *Candida auris*).
- b. Giving verbal handoff and written documentation to the person providing medical transport and the accepting facility, sharing key information about the resident's medical history and risk factors for infection.
 - For written documentation, consider use of a standardized transfer form, such as CDC's Inter-facility Infection Control Transfer Form: <https://www.cdc.gov/healthcare-associated-infections/media/pdfs/Interfacility-IC-Transfer-Form-508.pdf>
- c. Communicating with other facilities and emergency medical services providers to improve transfer processes if key information is not being shared routinely or appropriately (e.g., do not receive notification that a resident has a multidrug-resistant organism).

Additional Resources



VDH Standard Precautions webpage:

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/haiar/ip/standard-precautions/>