

Infection Prevention During Wound Care Procedures



Part 3: Use of Transmission-Based and Enhanced Barrier Precautions for Wounds

Objectives



1

Discuss risks for infection transmission with wound care procedures

2

Describe infection prevention practices to prevent transmission of infections with wound care

3

Identify how to apply infection prevention to wound care procedures

Transmission-Based and Enhanced Barrier Precautions for Wounds



Transmission-Based Precautions for Wounds in ALL Healthcare Settings

Use **Contact** Precautions (gown, gloves upon room entry) for wounds unable to be contained or covered by a dressing

Use **Contact + Droplet** Precautions (gown, gloves, mask, eye protection upon room entry) for wounds suspected or confirmed to be infected with **Group A Streptococcus (GAS)**

- Until 24 hours after starting effective antibiotic therapy
- During a GAS outbreak, a facemask is recommended to be worn by healthcare personnel (HCP) during all wound care activities.



Scenario 6 Question

- A surgeon visiting a post-operative patient at a long-term acute care hospital is performing wound care for the patient's non-healing abdominal wound.
- The wound is **draining so much that it saturates the dressing and seeps outside of it**. This patient has a history of MRSA infections in the past year.
 - *What precautions would you recommend for this patient?*



Scenario 6 Answer

- ***What precautions should be used for a patient with a history of MRSA infection who now has a draining wound that cannot be contained by a dressing?***
 - **Answer:** Contact Precautions because the wound is draining, saturating the dressing (it isn't contained).



Reference: <https://www.cdc.gov/infection-control/hcp/basics/standard-precautions.html>

Enhanced Barrier Precautions (EBP): For Nursing Homes Only



Use EBP for residents with chronic wounds, when Contact Precautions do not apply

- Examples of chronic wounds: Pressure ulcers, diabetic foot ulcers, and chronic venous stasis ulcers

Wear gown and gloves *during* wound care and other high-contact resident care activities

- High contact activities: dressing, bathing/showering, transferring, providing hygiene, changing linens, or changing briefs



Scenario 7 Question



- A podiatrist is seeing a nursing home resident with a large, non-healing toe ulcer that is completely covered with a dressing.
 - *What precautions would you recommend for this resident?*

Note: The wound is not infected with GAS and the facility is not experiencing an outbreak of GAS.

Scenario 7 Answer

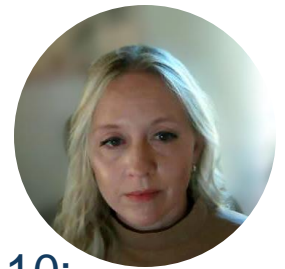


- ***What precautions should the podiatrist use for a nursing home resident that has a large toe ulcer that is completely covered with a dressing?***
 - **Answer:** Enhanced Barrier Precautions because the toe ulcer is a chronic wound and it can be covered with a dressing.



Reference: <https://www.cdc.gov/long-term-care-facilities/hcp/prevent-mdro/ppe.html>

Resources



CDC

- Nursing Home Infection Preventionist Training Course (Module 10: Infection Prevention During Wound Care)
 - <https://www.train.org/virginia/course/1081811/details>
 - *Note: Requires registering for a free TRAIN account*
- Enhanced Barrier Precautions resources
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/long-term-care-facilities/hcp/prevent-mdro/ppe.html>
- Infection Prevention and Control Assessment Tool for General Infection Prevention and Control Across Settings: Wound Care
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/infection-control/media/pdfs/ipc-mod8-wound-care-508.pdf>
 - Includes assessment items for basic infection prevention and control

Resources



Virginia Department of Health

- Enhanced Barrier Precautions resources
<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/haiar/icprecautions/>
- Wound care infection prevention and control guidance and observation tool
 - <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/174/2023/10/VDH-Wound-Care-IPC-Tool-Checklist-External-Use-1.pdf>
- Wound care quick guide for nursing home infection preventionists
 - https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/174/2023/11/Quick-Guide_WoundCare_FINAL.pdf

Minnesota Department of Health: Wound Care Infection Prevention Recommendations for Long-Term Care Facilities

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/patientsafety/infectioncontrol/woundcare.pdf>

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THANK YOU



Visit the VDH HAI/AR Website:
<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/haiar/>

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