

Wisdom for Your Life.

# Infection Prevention 2023

Infection Prevention, 865-305-9805

## *Our Mission*

To serve through healing,  
education and discovery



# Objectives:

The learner will be able to:

- List ways to break the chain of infection and thereby transmission to patients, visitors, other team members, and themselves
- Identify which patients require transmission-based precautions and outline the requirements for each type
- Outline the hand hygiene compliance processes, hand health, nail policy, and how to ensure dispensers are full
- Define the level of TB risk at the medical center and the importance of annual N95 respirator fit test
- Describe how Influenza vaccination protects everyone

# How are Germs Spread?



1<sup>st</sup> Link - Germ (ex. bacteria, virus, fungus, parasite)



2<sup>nd</sup> Link - “Susceptible” person (ex. hospitalized patient, non-immunized team member, person with immune deficiency)



3<sup>rd</sup> Link - Germ’s passage to the susceptible person (direct contact, indirect contact, droplets, particles in the air)

***You can break the chain of infection by interrupting transmission at any point between these links. Infection prevention focuses on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> links.***

***Let’s learn how!***





# Protect Yourself

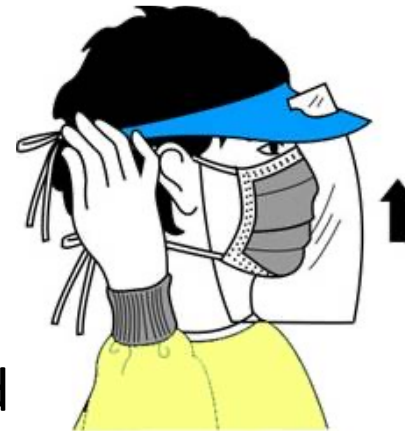
## Standard Precautions:

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- **Standard Precautions are a key safety measure.** Assume that ALL blood and body fluids are infectious.
- Wear [gloves](#) if you think your hands could come into contact with blood, fluid, mucous membranes, and non-intact skin.
  - **Remember:** Exam (**clean**) gloves protect only **YOU!** **Sterile** gloves protect the **patient**.
  - Never wear exam gloves from patient to patient. Do not wash or sanitize gloves.
  - Change gloves often and **perform hand hygiene before** donning new gloves, and after removing dirty ones.
  - Work from clean to dirty, don't touch your face or adjust personal protective equipment with “dirty” gloves.

# Protect Yourself and Others

- Wear additional personal protective equipment to protect your skin and face from germs
  - If there is a risk of splash wear goggles and/or a [face shield](#).
- Clean the patient's room and surroundings. Also clean and disinfect all equipment that is shared between patients, *including stethoscopes and blood glucose meters.*
  - Infection Prevention can test your equipment for cleanliness.



# “Isolation” Transmission-Based Precautions:

**PRECAUTIONS**  
To Prevent the Spread of Infection

**CONTACT**   **AIRBORNE**



- 1 Hand Hygiene**  
Perform hand hygiene before and after patient contact.  
Adhere to standard precautions.
- 2 Gloves and Gown**  
Wear gloves and gown upon entering the room.
- 3 Mask Required**  
Healthcare workers must wear a NIOSH approved particulate respirator to enter room. Visitors should wear a surgical mask when in patient's room.
- 4 Doors Closed**  
Keep doors closed at all times.
- 5 Hand Hygiene**  
Perform hand hygiene and disinfect patient care equipment upon leaving room.

**VISITORS** Report to the Nurses Station before entering

**PRECAUTIONS**  
To Prevent the Spread of Infection

**ENTERIC** **STOP**



- 1 Hand Hygiene**  
Perform hand hygiene before and after patient contact.  
Adhere to standard precautions.
- 2 Gloves and Gown**  
Wear gloves and gown upon entry.
- 3 Hand Hygiene**  
Wash hands with soap and water, disinfect patient care equipment upon leaving room.

**VISITORS** Report to the Nurses Station before entering

**PRECAUTIONS**  
To Prevent the Spread of Infection

**DROPLET**



- 1 Hand Hygiene**  
Perform hand hygiene before and after patient contact.  
Adhere to standard precautions.
- 2 Mask Required**  
Mask required upon entry.
- 3 Hand Hygiene**  
Perform hand hygiene and disinfect patient care equipment upon leaving room.

**VISITORS** Report to the Nurses Station before entering

**PRECAUTIONS**  
To Prevent the Spread of Infection

**ENHANCED DROPLET**



- 1 Hand Hygiene**  
Perform hand hygiene before and after patient contact.  
Adhere to standard precautions plus DCE (droplet, contact and eye protection).
- 2 Gloves and Gown**  
Wear gloves and gown upon entering the room.
- 3 Mask Required**  
N95 or equivalent NIOSH approved respirator preferred.  
If respirator not available a single face mask can be used.
- 4 Eye Protection Required**  
Face shield or goggles.
- 5 Door Closed**  
Keep doors closed at all times.
- 6 Hand Hygiene**  
Perform hand hygiene and disinfect patient care equipment upon leaving room.

**VISITORS RESTRICTED**

There are 5 categories:

1. Contact (pink sign)
2. Enteric (red sign)
2. Airborne (blue sign)
3. Droplet (green sign)
4. **Neutropenic/Protective Precautions** (white sign) – immunosuppressed
5. *As well as combinations of the precautions above*

*Enhanced Precaution signs are used for novel coronaviruses*

## PPE Carts East Pavilion



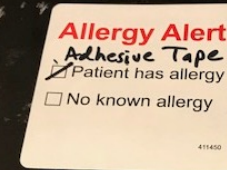
## Know where to find PPE

## Nurse Servers with PPE Heart Hospital



1. Requires a door sign
2. Requires a chart sticker
3. Requires that PPE is available at the door

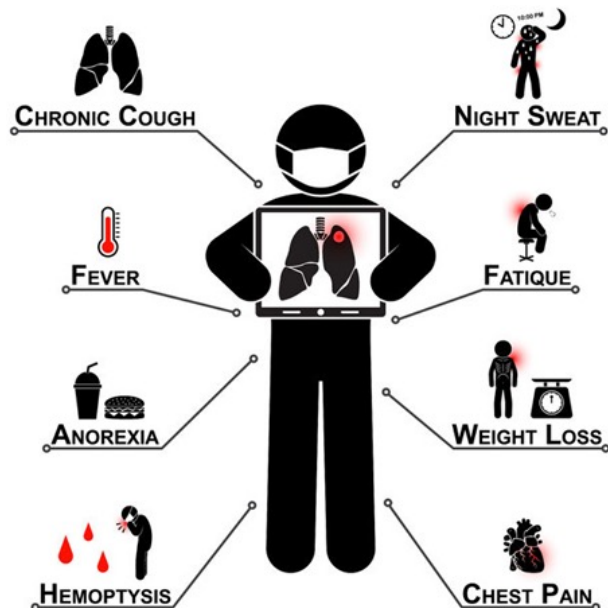
## Isolation Door PPE Cabinet South Tower



# Tuberculosis

Active Tuberculosis (TB) can spread from coughing, speaking, spitting, or sneezing into the air. If another person breathes in these germs, there is a chance TB can spread to that person.

- Symptoms of active disease include any/all:



- Latent TB can ***not*** be spread and is ***not contagious***
  - The TB germ is in the body but there are ***no symptoms***
  - Detected through a skin test or TB blood test

Every Team Member is TB tested at their initial Occupational Health Visit



# COVID-19

- TMs must be vaccinated for COVID-19 with a primary series (Ex.: 1 dose of Johnson and Johnson or 2 doses of Pfizer/Moderna) OR they must have an approved exemption on file
  - TMs who have an exemption must remain masked at all times on campus, and when eating must remain 6 feet from others
- COVID spreads primarily through respiratory droplets-this is why masking is such an important practice
- COVID patients should be in either enhanced droplet or enhanced airborne isolation
- TMs should report COVID symptoms or COVID exposures to Infection Prevention on Insite, and follow the instructions provided.

## CORONAVIRUS UPDATES FOR TEAM MEMBERS

UT Medical Center continues to respond to COVID-19.  
This page provides regularly updated information for the team members of the UT Medical Center community.

### BEEN EXPOSED? HAVING SYMPTOMS?

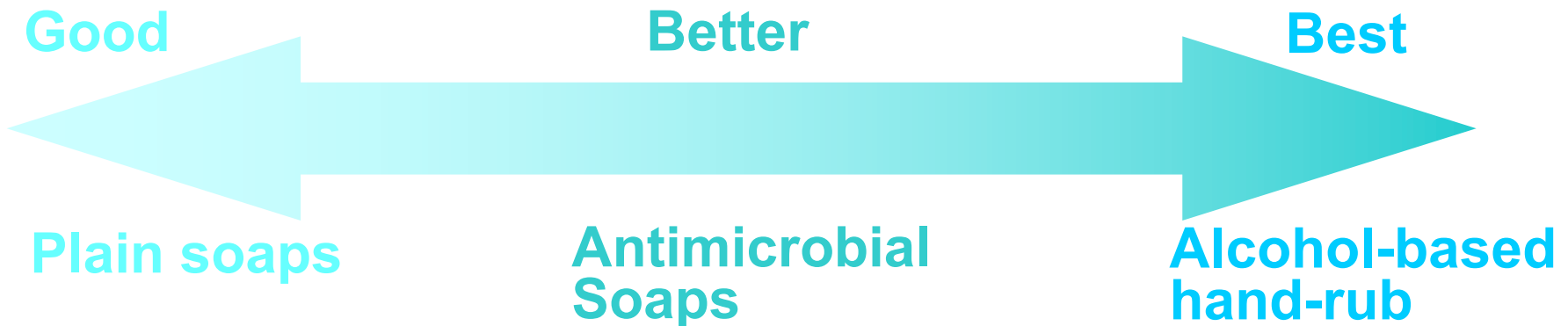
Fill out the appropriate form: [Report an Exposure](#) or [Report Symptoms or Test Results](#)

# Hand Hygiene



- Washing with soap and water or using alcohol-based hand rub removes/kills a lot of the “transient” (hitch-hiking) germs you pick up on your hands while taking care of patients.
- Alcohol-based sanitizer or antibacterial hand soap and water is preferred when doing procedures like placing a central line or foley catheter.
- Alcohol-based sanitizer has the quickest “kill” activity against bacteria and some viruses.

**Do not use alcohol sanitizer with patients who have *C. difficile*, norovirus, and anthrax infection.**



# When should you use an alcohol-based hand rub?

If hands are not visibly soiled with blood or body fluids, use an alcohol-based hand rub for routinely cleaning your hands:

1. Before having direct contact with patients
2. After having direct contact with a patient's skin
3. After having contact with body fluids, wounds or broken skin
4. After touching equipment or furniture in the patient's room.
5. After removing gloves

**Sanitizer is conveniently located outside patient rooms (also inside some rooms), inside patient care areas, and by the elevators.**

*-If the dispenser is empty, please call 9505*



# When should you wash with soap and water (15 seconds)?

1. When hands are visibly soiled
2. After removal of blood soiled gloves
3. Before eating
4. After using the restroom
5. After caring for a patient with *C. difficile*, diarrhea or anthrax



# Hand Hygiene Reminder System

Wear your hand hygiene reminder badge while working.



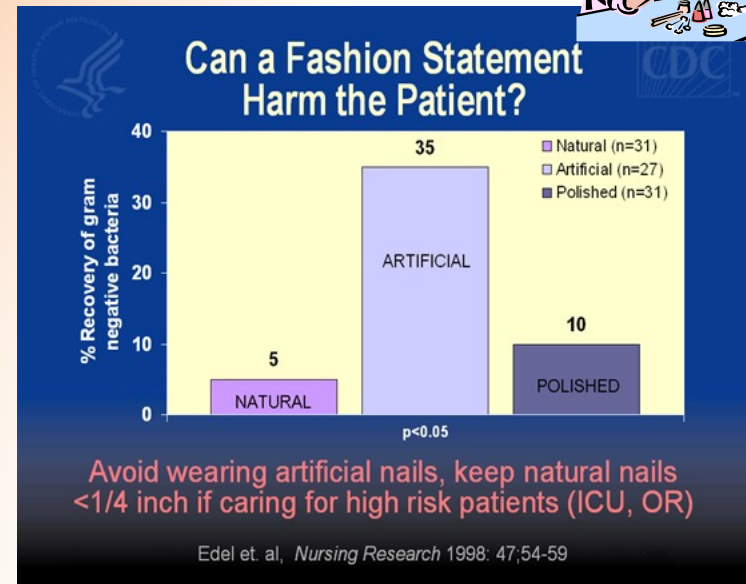
If you see someone forget to perform hand hygiene, SPEAK UP for patient safety by saying “Foam, please”



[Click here](#) to learn more about the hand hygiene reminder system

# Artificial Nails

Medical center policy prohibits all direct, hands-on caregivers from wearing artificial nails (acrylics, gels, nail extensions/enhancements, wraps, sculptured, fiberglass).



# Influenza Vaccination

University of Tennessee Medical Center strongly recommends you receive the influenza (“Flu”) vaccination every year. All team members including healthcare workers, physicians, dependent healthcare professionals, and volunteers and non-employees such as environmental services, laboratory staff, food service personnel, students and contracted vendors are required to follow the universal influenza protocol or adhere to approved exception and surgical masking protocols.

# Protect the patient (and ourselves) – What do we need to provide to our patients?

- A clean environment (Includes keeping them safe from you)
  - If you are ill, protect your patients and co-workers by staying home until you are no longer contagious
  - Practice good respiratory etiquette.
- Clean equipment (or sterile supplies, when indicated)
- Food & medications free of bacterial growth and contamination (no spoiled food, outdated food or medicines)
- Appropriate PPE for entering rooms of patients requiring Isolation Precautions (transmission-based precautions)
- **Use good hand hygiene AT ALL TIMES**

**Protect yourself** – always assume the worst.

- Use **Common Sense**
- Hand **cleanliness**
- Up to date **Vaccinations**
- **PPE**
  - Gloves
  - Masks
  - Gowns and eye shields when appropriate
- **Try to be perfect** every time