

Isolation Guidelines for Transporting Patients

Precaution type	Patient precautions
Contact	Patient covered with clean sheet
Contact Plus	Patient covered with clean sheet
Airborne or Contact/Airborne	Patient in medical grade mask & Patient covered with clean sheet
Droplet	Patient in medical grade mask
Contact/droplet or Enhanced	Patient in medical grade mask & Patient covered with clean sheet
Airborne	Patient in medical grade mask

Per policy (Isolation: Transmission-Based Precautions, 1IC.IP.0011): Staff outside of the patient room **do not** need to wear PPE unless they anticipate providing care during transport, then wear PPE as guided by the type of isolation.

Preventing Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Splash Injuries

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Health Risks: Bloodborne pathogen exposure (BBPE) can lead to serious, long-term health consequences.

The "Rush" Factor: Most splash injuries happen when we are hurrying or skipping critical PPE steps.

Key Points

1. Pause Before You Start

- Assess the task and your environment before engaging.
- Confirm you have the **correct PPE** ready (face shield, gown, and gloves) for the task.

2. Slow Down

- Rushing leads to mistakes; speed increases your risk of exposure.
- Always follow the proper donning and doffing sequences—do not cut corners.

3. Be Mindful

- Maintain total focus on the high-risk task at hand.
- Eliminate distractions—safety requires your full attention.

4. Report Immediately

- If a splash occurs, do not wait. Follow the exposure protocol right away.



MEASLES is.....

a serious respiratory disease (in the lungs and breathing tubes) that cause a rash and fever. It is very contagious. In rare cases, it can be deadly. Measles spreads when a person infected with the virus breathes, coughs, or sneezes. It is very contagious and you can catch measles by being in a room where a person with measles has been, up to 2 hours after that person is gone. And you can catch measles from an infected person before the rash appears.

Clinical presentation of those infected with measles varies based on several factors. Below is a summary of guidance from the CDC on recognizing measles.

Measles starts with a fever that can get very high (may spike to more than 104°) Some of the other symptoms that may occur are:

- Cough, runny nose, and red eyes
- Rash of tiny, red spots that start at the head and spread to the rest of the body 3-5 days after symptoms begin
- Diarrhea
- Ear Infection
- Tiny white spots (Koplik spots) may appear inside the mouth 2-3 days after symptoms begin



Airborne Isolation

A patient suspected of having measles should be placed in Airborne Isolation immediately.

**IP must be made aware immediately
Please wear gown, gloves, and fitted N-95
mask or PAPR to care for patient**

Prevention: Get your MMR vaccine!

The best way to protect against measles is to get the measles-mumps-rubella vaccine (called the MMR shot). If you have questions regarding your immunity to measles contact Mission Work Well.

Helpful Resource Link
<https://www.cdc.gov/measles/hcp/clinical-overview/index.html>

Infection Prevention Main Office 828.213.5460
On-Call Cell Phone 828.776.5216

Suspected Measles (Rubeola)

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1. Identification: What to Look For

- The Three C's: **Cough**, **Coryza** (runny nose), and **Conjunctivitis** (red, watery eyes).
- High Fever: Often spikes to >104 degrees.
- Koplik Spots: Tiny white spots on the buccal mucosa (2–3 days after symptom onset).
- Rash: Maculopapular rash appearing 3–5 days after symptoms begin.

2. Immediate Isolation: Where to Put the Patient

- Measles is highly contagious via airborne transmission.
- Mask Patient: Apply a surgical mask immediately.
- Airborne Isolation: Place patient in a Negative Pressure Room.
- Primary Locations at Mission Hospital: Purple Pod-Room 37 or Room 45.
- Requirement: Keep the door closed at all times.

3. PPE Requirements

- Healthcare workers must utilize **Airborne** before entering the room, including:
 - **Fit-tested N95 respirator or PAPR.**