

Appendix 1: Standard Isolation precautions

Standard Isolation precautions are used to help stop the spread of germs from one person to another.

1. Hand hygiene – washing before and after leaving room.
2. Use of personal protective equipment (e.g., gloves, gowns, masks if indicated by a Health professional) This will be provided by SWS on request.
3. Safe handling of potentially contaminated equipment or surfaces in the patient environment.
4. Respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette.

A poster should be placed on the patient's door.

AIRBORNE PRECAUTIONS: TB, measles & chicken pox

In addition to the above **Standard Precautions**, use Airborne precautions

TB is spread through the air, and you cannot get TB germs from: • Sharing drinking containers or eating utensils. • Smoking or sharing cigarettes with others. • Saliva shared from kissing. TB is NOT spread through shaking someone's hand, sharing food, touching bed linens or toilet seats, or sharing toothbrushes.

A. PATIENT PLACEMENT

1. Ideally place the patient in a private room area.
2. The room should have an open window, and adequate ventilation.
3. Keep the room door closed and the patient in the room.

B. RESPIRATORY PROTECTION (mask) – to be provided by SWS on request

1. Wear respiratory protection when entering the room of a patient known or suspected of infectious pulmonary tuberculosis, Measles (rubeola) and varicella (chickenpox).
2. Susceptible persons (those not vaccinated or have a reduced immune system – chronic disease, cancer, on steroids etc) should not enter the room of patients known or suspected of having measles or varicella. However, if susceptible persons must enter the room, they must wear respiratory protection (mask).
3. Minimum isolation of a smear positive patient will probably be two weeks.

C. PATIENT TRANSPORT

1. Limit the movement and transport of the patient from the room to essential purposes only.
2. If a student with an infectious disease e.g. TB is sharing a room with another student who is not ill, ensure that that the well student is moved to a new room.
3. Students' family should be encouraged to fetch student to return home for care and support.