

	<b><u>The Johns Hopkins Hospital</u></b>	<i>Policy Number</i>	IFC-015
	<b><u>INTERDISCIPLINARY CLINICAL PRACTICE MANUAL</u></b>	<i>Effective Date</i>	3/31/05
	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Page</i>	1 of 3
	<b>Standard Precautions And Infection Control And Prevention Requirements</b>	<i>Supersedes</i>	N/A

**KEY WORDS:** Hand hygiene, Standard Precautions, Isolation Precautions, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

**POLICY**

It is the responsibility of each member of the JHH system to prevent and control infections. The following infection control guidelines are established to protect patients and staff by facilitating the identification, prevention, and control of nosocomial and other epidemiologic important pathogens.

- I. Employee Responsibilities
  - A. Personnel shall follow the policies set forth in the policy “Infection Control Policy for the Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases” (IFC-002).
  - B. Personnel shall follow the policies set forth in the policy “The Infection Control Management of Exposures of Patients and Personnel to Selected Communicable Diseases” (IFC-012).
  - C. Personnel shall perform Hand Hygiene per the Hand Hygiene and Skin Asepsis Policy (IFC-001) must be followed.
  - D. Personnel with patient care contact with minor cuts or abrasions in exposed areas shall cover the area with a band-aid or liquid band-aid and wear gloves for patient contact. Occupational Health Services must see and evaluate draining skin lesions.
  - E. Personnel who have been occupationally exposed to blood or hazardous body fluids must Call STIX at 5-STIX and follow the procedure in the Safety Manual.
  - F. Staff members are prohibited from eating and drinking in work areas where there is a reasonable likelihood of occupational exposure to infectious agents. This specifically applies to, but is not limited to, patient rooms, **utility rooms**, microbiology laboratory, operating rooms and procedure areas.
  - G. Personnel shall not-place food or beverages in refrigerators designated for specimens or medications.
- II. Education
  - A. Upon employment, all new hospital employees must have documentation of attendance at the general hospital orientation program on prevention of infection .
  - B. Each employee and student must review the current hospital epidemiology and infection control policies for their specific area with their supervisor/designee prior to working in that area.
  - C. All personnel must participate in an annual infection control update. Other required updates may be scheduled at any time by request or as pertinent issues arise.
- III. Performance Management
  - A. Each employee must be evaluated on his or her job performances with respect to infection control practices based on his or her duties.
- IV. Patient Care Practices



A. Hand hygiene

Hand hygiene must be performed before & after patient contact.

B. Isolation/Precautions

All employees must follow the Isolation Precautions Policy (IFC-023).

C. Cleaning and Disinfecting Policy

All employees and patient care units must follow the Cleaning and Disinfecting Policy (IFC-014).

D. Standard Precautions

1. All employees must follow Standard Precautions. Standard Precautions are designed to reduce the risk of transmission of microorganisms from both recognized and unrecognized sources of infection in the hospital. Simply put, Standard Precautions means putting a barrier between the health care worker and the blood or body fluids of any patient.
  - a. **Standard Precautions applies to all patients regardless of their diagnosis.**
2. Standard Precautions shall be implemented when contact with any of the following are anticipated:
  - Blood
  - All body fluids, secretions and excretions, with the exception of sweat regardless of whether or not they contain visible blood.
  - Non-intact skin (this includes rashes)
  - Mucous membranes
3. Standard Precautions requires:
  - a. Hand hygiene: must be practiced promptly after touching blood, body fluids, secretions or excretions whether or not gloves were worn. In addition, hand hygiene must be practiced after gloves are removed and between patient contacts. Finally, hand hygiene must be practiced when tasks or procedures on the same patient involve different body sites in order to prevent cross-contamination between body sites.
  - b. Use only JHH approved soap or waterless alcohol based gel.
  - c. Gloves: clean gloves must be worn when touching blood, body fluids, excretions, secretions and contaminated items and when performing venipuncture and other vascular procedures.
  - d. Mask, eye protection & face shield: must be worn during procedures or patient care activities that are expected to generate splashes or sprays of blood, body fluids, secretions and excretions. For example, suctioning, irrigating a wound, performing certain laboratory tests, etc.
  - e. Gown: must be worn to protect skin and to prevent soiling of clothing during procedures or patient care activities that are expected to generate splashes or sprays of blood, body fluid, secretions and excretions.
  - f. Patient care equipment: must be cleaned according to protocol with hospital-approved disinfectant before being used for another patient. Any patient care equipment that is sent from any department for repairs or service must be cleaned with hospital-approved disinfectant prior to sending it out.
  - g. Linen: soiled with blood or body fluid must be handled in a manner that prevents skin or mucous membrane exposure or contamination of the

