

**INFECTION CONTROL PRACTICE GUIDELINE  
INFECTION CONTROL  
TRANSPORTING THE ISOLATION PATIENT**

The purpose of correctly transporting the isolated patient is to provide protection for the patient and others from an infection or a communicable disease while being transported from and returned to the isolation room.

Limiting the movement and transport of patients infected with virulent or epidemiologically important microorganisms and ensuring that such patients leave their rooms only for essential purposes reduces opportunities for transmission of microorganisms in hospitals.

**I. When patient transport is necessary:**

- A. Appropriate barriers (i.e. masks, impervious dressings) are worn or used by the patient to reduce the opportunity for transmission of microorganisms to other patients, personnel and visitors and to reduce contamination of the environment.
- B. Personnel in the area to which the patient is to be taken are notified of the impending arrival of the patient and of the precautions to be used to reduce the risk of transmission of infectious microorganisms.
- C. Patients are to be informed of ways by which they can assist in preventing the transmission of their infectious microorganisms to others.

**II. All equipment used for patients on isolation is to be cleaned with disinfectant after use. This includes stretchers, wheelchairs, examining tables, blood pressure cuffs, etc.**

**III. Instructions for each category of isolation follows:**

*The contents of this document rescind any previous document covering similar material.*

**TABLE I**  
**PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY:**

<b>TYPE OF ISOLATION</b>	<b>PATIENT</b>	<b>TRANSPORTER</b>	<b>PERSONNEL PERFORMING TEST</b>
<b>CONTACT</b>	Apply fresh dressing and cover infected area adequately	Gloves and proper handwashing	Gloves and proper handwashing
<b>DROPLET</b>	Surgical Mask	Surgical Mask (if patient is unable to wear one)	Surgical Mask (if patient must remove mask for procedure or is unable to wear one)
<b>AIRBORNE</b>	Surgical Mask	N95 Mask (if patient is unable to wear surgical mask)	N95 Mask (if patient must remove mask for procedure or is unable to wear one)
<b>STANDARD PRECAUTIONS</b>	None	None	Gowns and gloves (if test involves contact with infected site); eye covering if splashing of body fluids is likely to occur.