



The National Voice for Direct-Care RNs

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April 4, 2024

Dr. Mandy Cohen, MD, MPH
Director Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Rd.
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Cohen:

We commend the CDC for rejecting HICPAC's draft updates to the CDC's Isolation Precautions guidance. It is essential that HICPAC recognize the science on aerosol transmission of infectious diseases and respiratory protection for health care workers.

We are encouraged by the CDC's intention to expand the scope of expertise on HICPAC and its Work Group. We urge you to ensure there are representatives from the following fields of expertise:

- Frontline health care workers, including labor unions representing health care workers,
- Patients and community members,
- Experts in occupational health, industrial hygiene, respiratory protection, and aerosol dynamics in addition to infection prevention.

These groups have essential expertise for developing protective, implementable guidelines, including on the pertinent scientific evidence, effectiveness of prevention measures, and considerations for implementation.

Sincerely,

Signed by 5,651 individuals.