

HICPAC Isolation Precautions Guideline Workgroup Call

August 4, 2022, 2:00 pm ET

Participants

Workgroup: Sharon Wright, Mike Lin, Hilary Babcock, Judith Guzman-Cottrill, Anu Malani, JoAnne Reifsnnyder, Connie Steed, Julie Trivedi, Deborah Yokoe

CDC: Mike Bell, Darian Bishop, Sydney Byrd, Abigail Carlson, Mylaica Conner, Marie de Perio, Ryan Fagan, Jamesa Hogges, Melissa Schaefer, Devon Schmucker, Christine So, Erin Stone, Matt Stuckey, David Weissman, Laura Wells

Agenda

- Summary from last meeting and goals of this meeting
- Overall concept for Section B
- Eye and face protection
- Discussion of respiratory transmission/protection section
- Next steps

Discussion Summary

Overall concept for Section B

After giving a summary of the last meeting, Dr. Wright led a discussion of the Section B overall concept.

- CDC will identify content that will go into other guidelines/guidance and begin drafting this section.
 - Items not in this update may already be in core practices or need to be included in an update of core practices.
 - Some topics may end up becoming a standalone document.
- The writing might begin with the gown section.
- There will be a standard format for each section.
 - For example, rationale, guiding principles, types/characteristics, approaches, then any additional considerations
 - Some content may be in a “call-out” text box.

Eye and face protection

The Workgroup discussed the proposed eye and face protection outline.

- The documents referred to were core practices, the 2007 isolation guideline, and NIOSH eye safety.
 - It was suggested that it is essential to define appropriate eye protection in this document, and NIOSH has an eye protection SME who could be consulted.
- The group agreed they need to decide what content about PPE for infection control needs to be presented in this document vs. core practices, etc.
 - A comment was made that this information should all be in one place, most likely in this document vs. linking out to multiple other documents.
 - The isolation document could give the rationale, then there could be a link to a table that goes into more detail about the pros and cons of the different types of eye protection, etc.
 - This could be the same for masks and gowns.
- A member asked about including OSHA language, but the consensus was that links to the regulatory information could be provided.
- Members can access this outline in the Box account and comment further.

Discussion of respiratory transmission/protection section

The Workgroup discussed the new proposed version of the table for considering respiratory protection.

- Should the table show fit tested N95 masks vs. all other types of masks, or should the different types of masks be broken down further, including the new ASTM F3502?
 - There may not be enough information to break it down further, but it could be indicated that more information will be available in the future.
 - The group had questions about the ASTM masks, such as fluid resistance and availability, so further research is needed.
- When it is recommended that a negative pressure room is not necessary, it should be noted that there still needs to be good ventilation and filtration.
- A member reiterated using the wording “inhalation with deposition onto the respiratory tract.”
- The group discussed the difficulty of defining which pathogens transmit over long versus short distances and the need to frame the predominant pattern of transmission, not the unusual circumstance.
- Respiratory protection and source control need to be decoupled.
 - There are situations where a respirator should be worn, but a negative pressure room is unnecessary.
 - Source control should be in a separate section.

Next Steps

- The outline will be updated based on today’s discussion, and the group can go into the Box account and add further comments.
- For homework, the group can think about questions that warrant an evidence review.

The call adjourned at 2:52 pm with no additional comments or questions.

The next Workgroup call is scheduled for August 18, 2022, at 2 pm ET.