HICPAC Isolation Precautions Guideline Workgroup Call
December 1, 2022, 2:00 pm ET

Participants
Workgroup: Sharon Wright, Mike Lin, Hilary Babcock, Elaine Dekker, JoAnne Reifsnyder, Connie Steed, Julie Trivedi, Deborah Yokoe
CDC: Mike Bell, Darian Bishop, Sydney Byrd, Abigail Carlson, Marie de Perio, Ryan Fagan, Fernanda Lessa, Melissa Schaefer, Christine So, Erin Stone, Matt Stuckey, David Weissman, Laura Wells

Agenda
• Enhanced Barrier Precautions (EBP) in long-term care
  – Review of EBP: presentation by Kara Jacobs Slifka
  – Group discussion
• Potential acute care application of EBP
  – Example of application of EBP to hospital setting (Mike)
  – Review of proposal (Sharon)
  – Group discussion

Discussion Summary
Enhanced Barrier Precautions (EBP) in long-term care
After the presentation by CDC medical officer Kara Jacobs Slifka, Dr. Wright led a group discussion.
• The group discussed possible challenges in implementing EBP in LTC settings, such as cost, supply chain issues, compliance, and training challenges due to staff turnover.
  – Members agreed that communication and ongoing education and training are essential.
• It was pointed out that this guideline focuses on infection transmission and prevention in healthcare overall and is not specific to LTC.
  – EBP would apply based on a procedure or the use of certain medical devices and not based on the patient; this could be across all settings, not just LTC.
  – EBP would take away the need for risk assessment.
• The group discussed the EBP signage and how it could be simplified.
• A member asked what percentage of residents in LTC are impacted by EBP.
  – This varies by facility.

Potential acute care application of EBP
Dr. Lin presented some studies and discussed applying EBP to acute care settings.
• Similar to LTC settings, the focus would be on in-room activities involving patient contact but not environment-only contact.
• A member asked if there are studies that compare the rate of transmission using EBP vs. not using EBP.
  – More studies are needed on this.
• Members discussed the possibility of having a version of these precautions that calls for sterile glove use and not gowns in some situations.
  – Members agreed there could be a reimagined version of EBP in this guideline.

Next Steps
• The table and some thought questions will be sent to the group for members to send feedback on observations and practices within their facilities.

The call adjourned at 3:03 pm with no additional comments or questions.
The next Workgroup call is scheduled for December 15, 2022, at 2 pm ET.

Disclaimer: The findings and conclusions herein are draft and have not been formally disseminated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and should not be construed to represent any agency determination or policy.