

HICPAC Isolation Precautions Guideline Workgroup Call

December 1, 2022, 2:00 pm ET

Participants

Workgroup: Sharon Wright, Mike Lin, Hilary Babcock, Elaine Dekker, JoAnne Reifsnnyder, 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.