

HICPAC Isolation Precautions Guideline Workgroup Call

May 11, 2023, 2:00 pm ET

Participants

Workgroup: Sharon Wright, Mike Lin, Elaine Dekker, Judith Guzman-Cottrill, Anu Malani, JoAnne Reifsnnyder, Mark Russi, Connie Steed, Julie Trivedi, Deborah Yokoe

CDC: Mike Bell, Sydney Byrd, Abigail Carlson, Marie de Perio, Melissa Schaefer, Devon Schmucker, Christine So, Erin Stone, Laura Wells

Agenda

- Recap of prior meeting
- Targeted review of risk-based application of gown/glove
- Draft guideline discussion

Discussion Summary

Targeted review of risk-based application of gown/glove

After summarizing the prior meeting, Ms. Stone updated the group on the gown and glove evidence review.

- Key question: What is the effectiveness of *risk-based* application of gown/glove, or gloves alone, in preventing transmission of pathogens?
- Only studies published since 2007 were included.
- Ms. Stone summarized the methodology and results of the review, which will be available in the Box account.
- The studies on long term care facilities will be included next, and hopefully, results can be presented at the next meeting.
- A comment was made about the evidence on transmission among healthcare workers only looking at coronavirus and that there is a lack of studies that include other pathogens.
- A member asked if there is an overall summary outcome not broken down by pathogen.
 - No, these results are pathogen-specific
- The group discussed that the evidence does not support adding another level of contact precautions.
- A member asked if the evidence supports using gloves alone vs. a gown and gloves.
 - This could make a difference in the amount of medical waste produced by disposable gowns.
 - The group agreed there needs to be more evidence to support this change.
- A member referenced a talk by Dr. Jernigan on the impact of decolonization to prevent the transmission of certain multidrug-resistant organisms.

Draft guideline discussion

- Dr. Bell updated the group on the progress of the sections being reviewed internally.
- The group discussed the naming of the transmission categories.
 - Members agreed that using the word “respiratory” might cause issues due to OSHA regulations.
 - Members discussed options such as inhalation/exhalation and special inhalational
 - The group discussed some naming ideas from the March HICPAC call.
 - Routine inhalation vs. routine air – Several members preferred “air,” but not all.

- Emerging vs. special vs. novel – The group did not come to a final decision but settled on “novel” for now.
- Long distance vs. emerging – Most members preferred “emerging.”

The call adjourned at 3:02 pm with no additional comments or questions.

The next Workgroup call is scheduled for May 25, 2023, at 2 pm ET.