



Standard Operating Procedures



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Name of Policy:	Isolation Protocol – Patient Handling Outside of Isolation	Departments:	All
Category & No.:	ECC 18.1	Effective by:	June 21, 2024
Version No.:	1.0	Revision History:	Revised August 2023

Procedure:

1. Aim to limit possible exposure of other hospital locations wherever possible. If diagnostics are required (i.e., radiographs, ultrasound), the area should be prepared and reserved for use. Wherever possible, disposable pads should be used to help limit direct contact particularly in gastrointestinal cases. If feasible, these cases should be scheduled at the end of the day to limit exposure to other patients.
2. Patients that are being transported within the hospital should not be allowed to walk on the floor due to risk of contamination and thus must be transported via gurney, carrier (preferred over directly holding), or directly held (not preferred in the event a patient escapes).
3. Two patient handlers (technicians, clinicians, or assistants) are usually required for handling and transport; both must be in appropriate PPE.
 - a. The first handler should prepare the patient for transport (capping IV lines, cleaning patient of any infectious materials, face mask for respiratory disease, disposable pad over perineal area, etc.).
 - b. The second handler should remain clean initially by preparing the gurney, diagnostic site (i.e., radiology), and remain outside of isolation.
 - c. The first handler will transport the patient to the gurney and/or transfer to the second handler while remaining in isolation, exiting isolation using normal exit protocol, and then change to clean PPE so as to limit contamination.
4. The patient is to be taken directly to the location of diagnostics with limited exposure to other people and animals.
5. All accumulated disposable materials (i.e., disposable pads) and laundry should be brought back to isolation for disposal with isolation trash/laundry and not disposed of in general population.
6. Once diagnostics are completed, the patient is to be returned directly to isolation. The first handler may return the patient to its kennel and restart treatments and/or fluids as indicated.
7. The gurney and the area where patient was held for diagnostics is to be cleaned of gross debris using the current hospital-approved cleaner. The second handler will give all accumulated laundry, trash, and PPE to the first handler for disposal in Isolation and wash their hands according to protocol.
8. Hospital-approved cleaner is to be sprayed on the gurney and area where the patient was held for diagnostics and allowed to air dry for **at least ten minutes**.

9. All spaces used for evaluation and/or handling should remain closed to other patients until they are cleaned and disinfected according to appropriate protocol.

Revised August 2023, Bathilda Lake