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Outpatient, Not Out of Risk: Tackling Infection Prevention in the Ambulatory Setting

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October 9, 2025

Presentation Outline

- Ambulatory Overview
- Ambulatory Isolation Precautions
- Ambulatory Exposures & Outbreaks
- Ambulatory High-Level Disinfection (HLD) & Sterilization
- Ambulatory Surgical Site Infection Surveillance
- Ambulatory Construction & Facilities
- Other Ambulatory Considerations
- Summary



Disclosure:

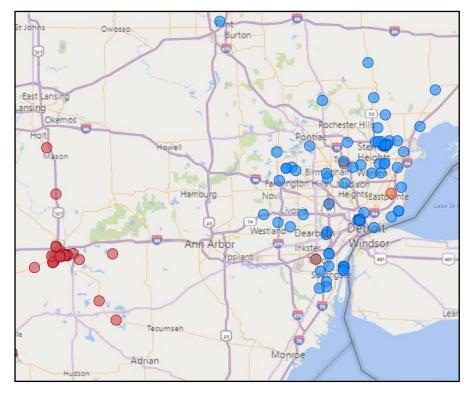
We have no actual or potential conflicts of interest in relation to this presentation

Outpatient, Not Out of Risk

Ambulatory Overview

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Henry Ford Health: An Overview



- ~50k employees (+17k Legacy Ascension employees added since merger)
- Large Legacy Henry Ford Health Ambulatory footprint
 - o ∼150 buildings

 - 7 Ambulatory Surgery Centers
 - 5 freestanding EDs
 - Dialysis
 - o Home Care
 - Retail (OptimEyes)
 - HF Provider Network Affiliated private providers
- Ambulatory footprint expanding with Joint Ventures with Legacy Ascension & MSU (+>100 Legacy Ascension sites, +20 MSU sites)

Meet the Henry Ford Health Ambulatory IC Team!

Areas	Team Member		
System Ambulatory (rotating 24/7 IC on-call assistance)	Cincy Dover (Manager)		
	Jessica Kirkpatrick		
	Nicole Savard		
	Jill Girardot		
	Amber Lee		
	Breanne Curry (Jackson)		
	Amanda Hagedorn		
	Amber Conley		



- 6 CICs
- Combined 60 years of experience
- All team members started inpatient
- 2024 APIC Heroes of Infection Prevention Award Recipients

Inpatient Visits vs. Outpatient

As of 2019, 5.9% of people aged 1-64 had a hospital visit in the past year

Whereas...

- 85% of adults had an annual visit with a doctor or health care professional
- The annual rate of visits is 3.2 per person
- More than three-quarters of all operations in the United States are performed in settings outside of the hospital
- Per CDC, "Compared to inpatient acute care settings, outpatient settings have traditionally lacked infrastructure and resources to support infection prevention and surveillance activities"

Comparing Inpatient vs. Outpatient

Inpatient	Outpatient
Location - usually all on one campus	Location - sites are spread out over a wide geographic area, impacts ability to standardize
Dedicated resources (e.g., Supply Chain, IP&C, Risk, Employee Health & Safety, Regulatory, Emergency Management, etc.)	Few dedicated resources. Typically rely on hospitals for support when possible
Staffing – A lot of Nurses, few MAs	Staffing – A lot of MAs, fewer Nurses, more providers
Housekeeping cleans majority of things/turns over rooms	Less housekeeping staff. Clinical staff does majority of cleaning and room turnover. Contracted services in some clinics
Policies – acute care focused	Policies – must advocate for ambulatory nuances
Communication – clear listservs and PR support. Everyone in one place	Communication is challenging. Staff and leaders are more spread out. Mixed messaging coming from hospitals
Surveys – fewer	Surveys – many! Ambulatory sites associated with different TJC applications, ASCs have state CMS surveys (FSOF), specialty accreditation surveys

Outpatient, Not Out of Risk

Ambulatory Isolation Precautions

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Should Ambulatory Settings Isolate?

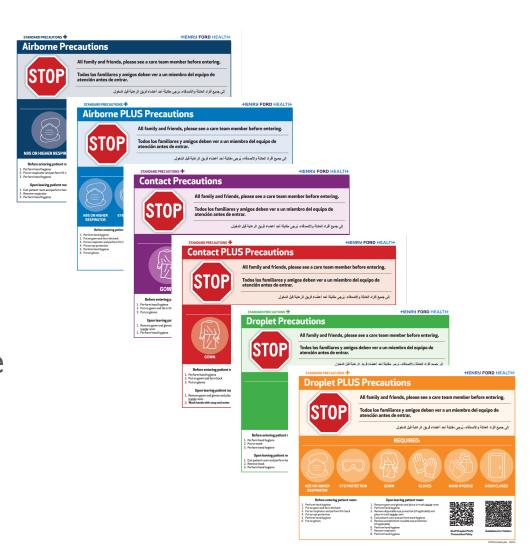
Short answer: YES!

Whether screening for patient infections or not, any facility could encounter a patient that is exhibiting or reporting symptoms of a communicable disease. In which case, staff should take the necessary precautions to prevent any possible transmission to themselves or other patients.



Ambulatory Isolation Precautions

- Ambulatory isolation follows the same policy/procedures as inpatient isolation
- Aligning the process allows for:
 - Better ability to streamline and educate all staff
 - Consistent flagging in patient charts via EMR
 - Consistent continuum of care for the patient in all care settings
 - Safer care provided by the staff; reduce staff exposures



A Standardized Isolation Sign



QR codes linking to isolation policies and visitor education

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Isolation Education in Ambulatory Setting

- Education delivery methods:
 - EMR isolation flags
 - o Online modules
 - In-person education
 - Tip sheets for posting
 - Materials located on Infection
 Control intranet page
 - Live and recorded presentations(e.g., quarterly MicroLearnings)

ONLINE CLASS

SYS | Ambulatory Isolation Procedures Education | #1674

Last Updated 01/12/2024 Duration 15 minutes

Details

This course provides education to ambulatory staff regarding the importance of isolation precautions, types of PPE, isolation precautions utilized at Henry Ford Health, and provides examples of illnesses requiring isolation.

Isolation Patients in Outpatient Rehab Services

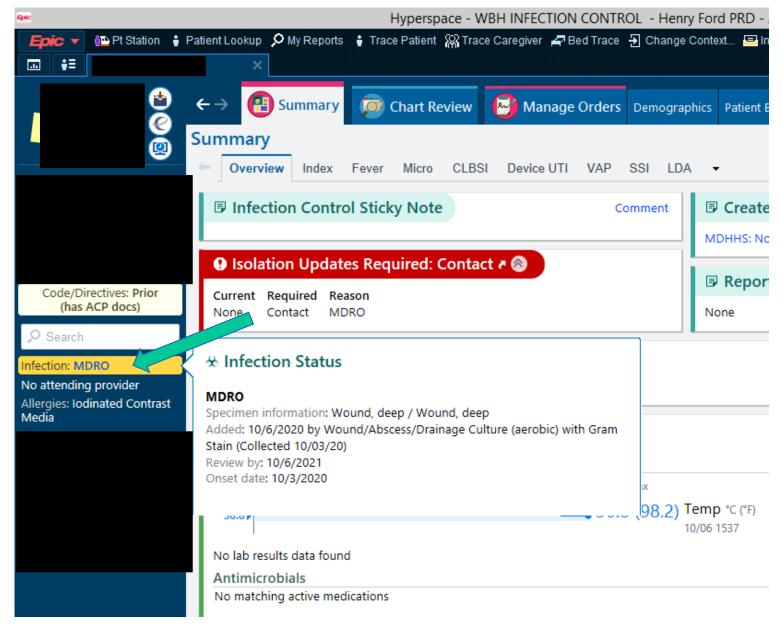
If therapy cannot be delayed, patients with certain infection flags and associated isolation orders can be safely seen for outpatient PT/OT as long as the appropriate precautions are followed. The below grid outlines isolation precaution requirements for common infection flags that do not prohibit patient's access to outpatient PT/OT services:



Isolation Type (isolation signs hyperlinked below)	Commonly Associated Infection Flags	PPE Required	Hand Hygiene	Open Gym Access	Equipment & Surface Disinfection After Each Use	
Contact	MDRO (multi-drug resistant organism) CRE/CRO (carbapenem resistant Enterobacteraceae) organism) Candida auris Candida auris Rule Out	Gown Gloves Wear both when working closely with the patient in a bay area or exam room. Gown is not required when overseeing patient in open gym.	Sanitizer	Patient able to utilize open gym area but should perform hand hygiene prior to and frequently throughout use of space.	Purple top PDI wipes Hydrogen Peroxide	
Contact PLUS	C. Difficile Norovirus	Gown Gloves Wear both when working closely with the patient in a bay area or exam room. Gown is not required when overseeing patient in open gym.	Soap & Water	Patient able to utilize open gym area but should perform hand hygiene with soap and water prior to use of space, and then with hand sanitizer throughout.	Bleach wipes	
<u>Droplet</u> PLUS	• COVID-19 • Mpox	N95Eye ProtectionGlovesGown (if splash risk)	Sanitizer	Patient should be seen in a private room or in a bay at	Purple top PDI wipes Hydrogen Peroxide	
<u>Droplet</u>	• Influenza	Surgical/Procedure Mask	Sanitizer	least 6 ft. away from other patients. Patient is not able to participate in open gym activities until after their	Purple top PDI wipes Hydrogen Peroxide	
Contact & Droplet	Adenovirus Metapneumovirus RSV (in infants/young children or immunosuppressed adults)	• Gown • Gloves • Surgical/Procedure Mask	Sanitizer	isolation period is completed.	Purple top PDI wipes Hydrogen Peroxide	

Questions? Please contact Ambulatory Infection Prevention & Control at AmbulatoryIC@hfhs.org

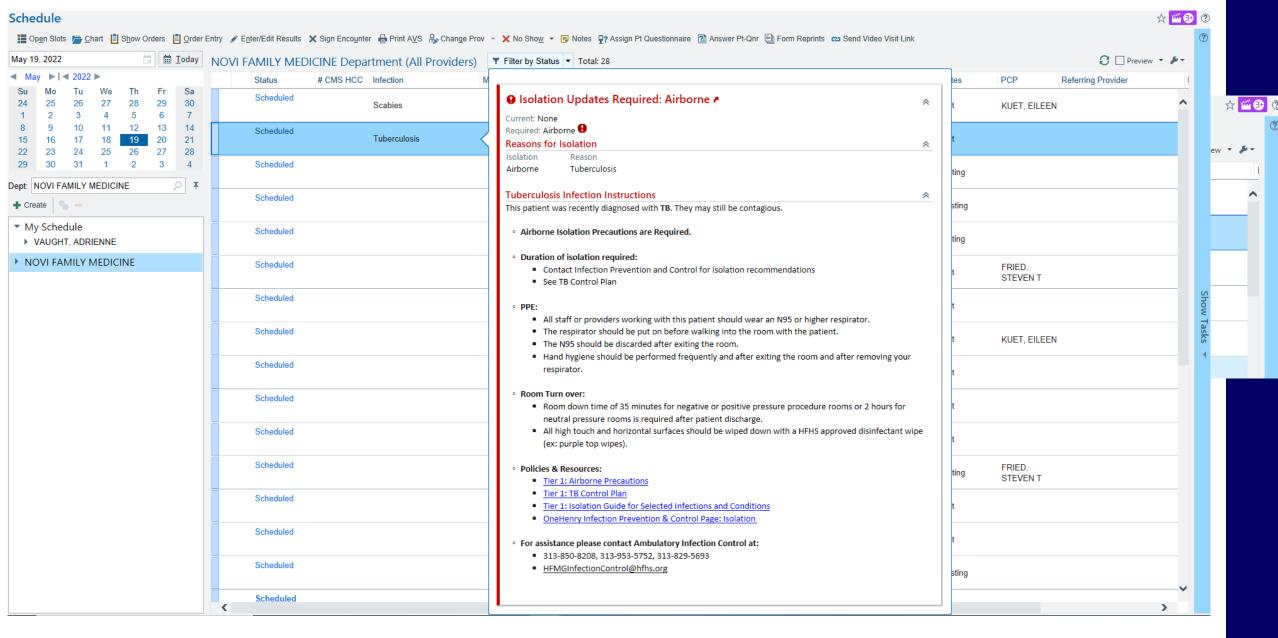
Isolation Precautions in EMR



Infection Status

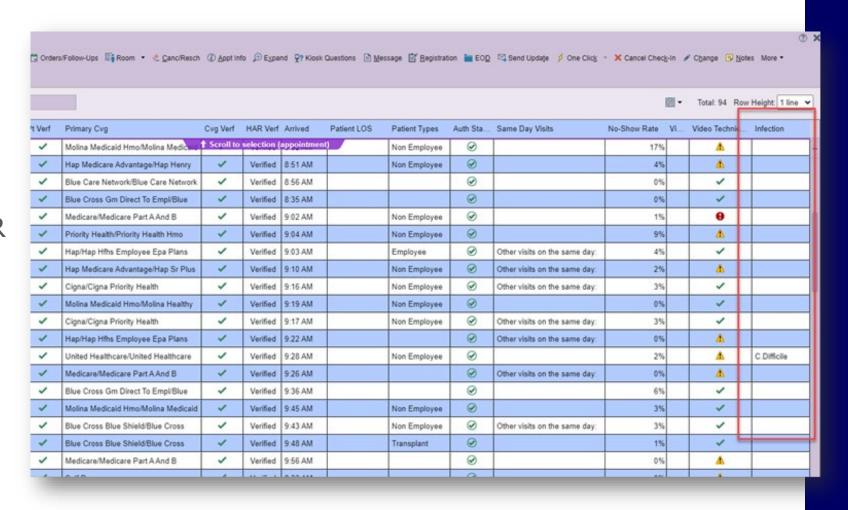
- When a lab result meets isolation criteria, an infection flag will automatically appear on the patient's chart
- Any time a flag is on the chart, the patient must be placed in the corresponding isolation

EPIC Schedule View: Infection Column



Unique EMR Needs for Specific Settings

- Not all departments interact with the patient and thus EMR in the same capacity
- Have had to work with EMR liaisons to ensure patient's "Infection" status is viewable in department's workflow



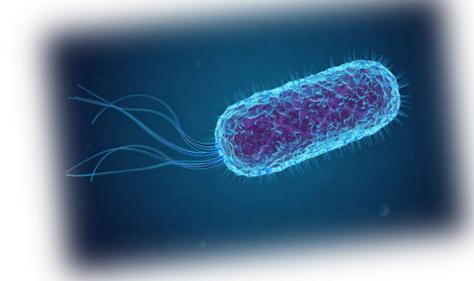
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Ambulatory Exposures & Outbreaks

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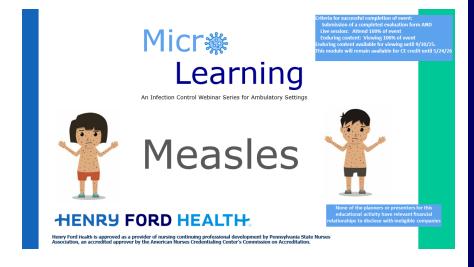
Exposures and Outbreaks

- Exposures and outbreaks have been identified and reported in outpatient clinic settings related to transmission of infections and exposure to bloodborne pathogens
- Outpatient settings (e.g., urgent cares, freestanding emergency departments, primary care clinics) are often the first-place patients seek care for management of illnesses. It is prudent that these outpatient settings can promptly identify, isolate and treat suspected communicable diseases to minimize exposure and prevent outbreaks both in the clinical and community environment
- Examples encountered:
 - Measles exposures
 - Pertussis exposures
 - Chickenpox exposures
 - Outbreak related to endoscopes



Exposure and Outbreak Prevention

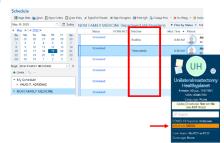
- Regular emphasis on standard precautions and empiric use of isolation precautions
- Work closely with front desk staff to be prepared to identify and room patients immediately, if possible
- Update on any potential outbreaks of concern in the community via daily safety huddle to reach all departments on what to look for and to reach out with questions
- Provide education (MicroLearnings) related to hot topics in Infection Control, including outbreaks (e.g., Measles outbreak)



Ambulatory Infection Control: Spreading the News

Communicable Disease Rooming Process

- Patients who have known or suspected infections or visible infection flags in the electronic health records should be roomed or triaged immediately.
- For patients with a known respiratory infection, patients should be advised to wear a mask and try to maintain 6 feet of distance from other individuals.
- Front desk staff should be able to see infection status of patients arriving using the infection column in the schedule view.
- If the infection column does not appear in your scheduler view, click the wrench icon, search infection column, and add to the report.
- Staff may also see infection status in the patient's side information panel (aka story board).
- Front desk staff should notify the nursing/clinical team of the patient's infection status immediately. Nursing/clinical team should try to accommodate rooming patient promptly.



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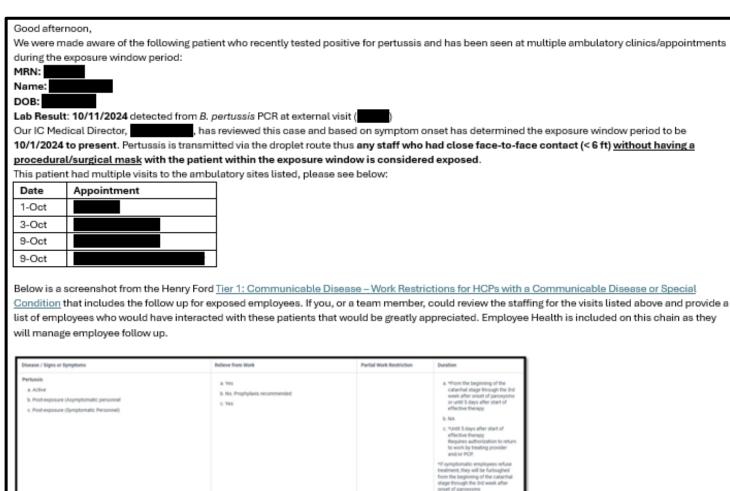
Questions? Please contact Ambulatory Infection Prevention & Control at AmbulatoryIC@hfhs.org or call 313-916-6484

Exposures

 Possible exposures are often initially identified by our communicable disease specialist or directly from the exposed department

Please let us know if you have any questions

- After identification, the case is reviewed by Infection Prevention and the IC Medical Director to determine the exposure definition and window
- Communications are sent to the affected departments for awareness and identification of individuals who may have been exposed
- Large-scale exposures have led to a streamlined checklist process for involving all key stakeholders

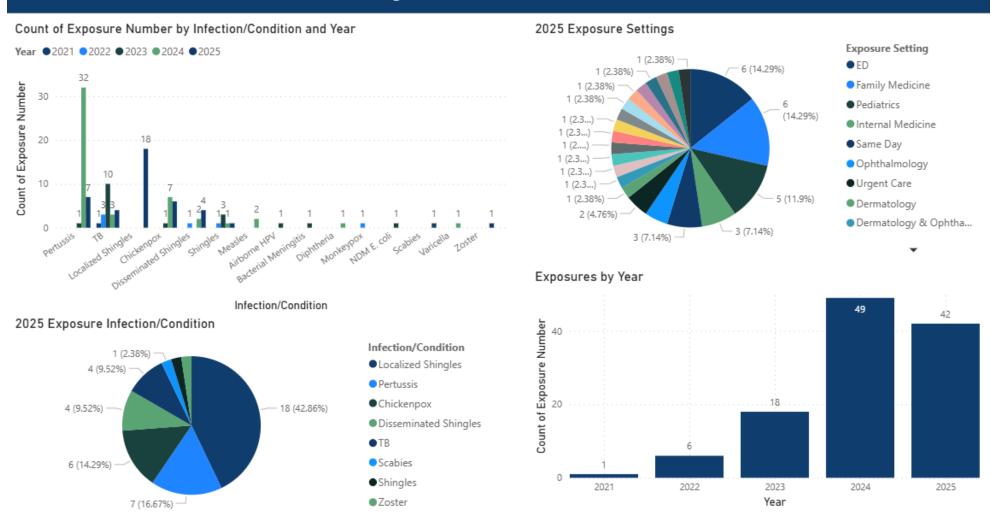


Inpatient vs. Outpatient Exposures

Inpatient	Outpatient
Patients are generally not in waiting rooms	Waiting rooms create additional opportunity for exposure of patients/family members
More staff exposures – patients may interact with multiple MAs, nurses, provider specialties, staff from various departments (e.g., housekeeping, dietary services) all in the same day	Less staff exposures – most patients interact with front desk, MA/Nurse who rooms patient, and provider at a single clinic visit
Exposures generally occur all in one building	Exposures may impact multiple sites if patient is seen at multiple clinics prior to diagnosis
More positive and negative pressure rooms to appropriately isolate patients	Less specialized pressure rooms, most clinics do not have any. Freestanding EDs may have a few
Generally, only one patient will be roomed following source patient prior to time elapsed for appropriate air exchange to occur. However, source patient may have had a roommate	May have multiple patients roomed in same space within 2-hour period (for neutral pressure rooms) following source patient (e.g., 4 patients seen/hour in the source patient room)
EMR allows for more precise tracking of patient, able to tell what time a patient was where	Can be difficult to identify the exact time a patient was brought into/left a room
Generally, follow up can be handled via unit manager who is present on site	Leadership structure can make follow up challenging, many clinic leaders cover multiple buildings and may not be onsite for immediate in person follow up

Exposures

Exposure Dashboard



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Ambulatory High-Level Disinfection (HLD) & Sterilization

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Ambulatory: A Wide Range of Specialties

- Endoscopy*
- Bronchoscopy*
- ENT*
- Urology*
- Radiology/Ultrasound*
- Ophthalmology*
- Cardiology*
- Walk-In and Urgent Care
- Pulmonary
- Family Medicine
- Pediatrics
- Women's Health*
- Internal Medicine
- PT/OT
- Pain Clinics

- Dermatology
- Vascular Access
- Orthopedics
- Endocrinology
- Gastroenterology*
- Sleep
- Allergy
- Infusion Clinics
- Infectious Disease
- Behavioral Health
- Oncology
- Radiation Oncology
- Mammography
- Reproductive Medicine*
- Outpatient Lab
- Rheumatology

- Neurology
- Speech Pathology
- Integrative Medicine
- Transplant
- IVF*
- Dental, Oral Surgery
- School Based Health
- Research/ Clinical Trials
- Virtual Clinics/Outreach

*Areas involving high-level disinfection or sterilization of scopes, probes, or lenses

HLD & Sterilization: Unique Specialties

- Ambulatory specialty clinics will likely require HLD of specific instrumentation, which require specific/different protocols than the inpatient SPD may be equipped to handle
- Types of specialties:
 - Manometry (catheters)
 - o Ophthalmology (laser lenses, pachymeter tips, immersion shells, etc.)
 - ENT (flexible & rigid scopes)
 - Women's Health (transvaginal probes)
 - Urology (prostate probes, scopes)



Esophageal catheter, Manometry



Retcam lens, Ophthalmology



Rigid scope, IVF



Pachymeter tip (left) and laser lens (right), Ophthalmology



Prostate probe, Urology

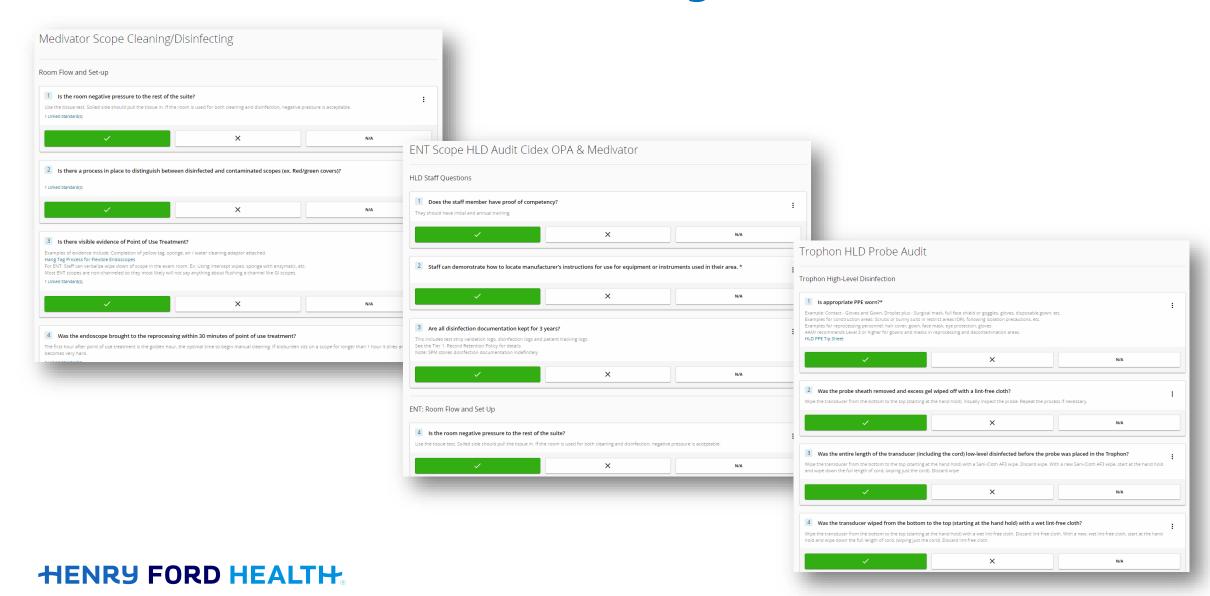


Flexible scope, ENT

HLD & Sterilization: Auditing Overview

HLD/Sterilization Area	Description	Sites	Audit Frequency
Ultrasound Probes (Radiology, Women's Health, Maternal Fetal Medicine, Vascular, General Surgery)	Involves reprocessing ultrasound probes that come in contact with mucous membranes. Most commonly are transvaginal probes	28	Semi-annual
Ophthalmology	Involves reprocessing eye instruments that come in direct contact with the eye, such as lenses, pachymeters, immersion shells, UBM, and RetCam	14	Semi-annual
Ear, Nose, & Throat (ENT)	Involves reprocessing flexible and rigid scopes. Rigid scopes have a manual HLD process whereas most of the sites have an AER for flexible endoscopes	8	Quarterly
Gastroenterology/Endoscopy	Involves reprocessing flexible endoscopes for GI procedures. Some sites have specialty flexible endoscopes, such as ERCPs.	6	Quarterly
Sterile Processing Departments (SPD)	Some of the SPDs also perform HLD for clinics or outpatient surgeries in addition to sterilization	5	1x/Monthly
HLD/Low Temp Sterilization (IVF, Cancer Pavilion, Urology)	Some specialty clinics reprocess scopes or probes using a low temp sterilizer	4	Quarterly
Manometry	Involves reprocessing of manometry catheters. GI manometry is a medical test that measures the contractions and pressures of the muscles in the gastrointestinal tract, including the esophagus, stomach, and small intestine	2	Quarterly
Total		67	176

HLD & Sterilization: Auditing



HLD & Sterilization: Communicating Audit Results

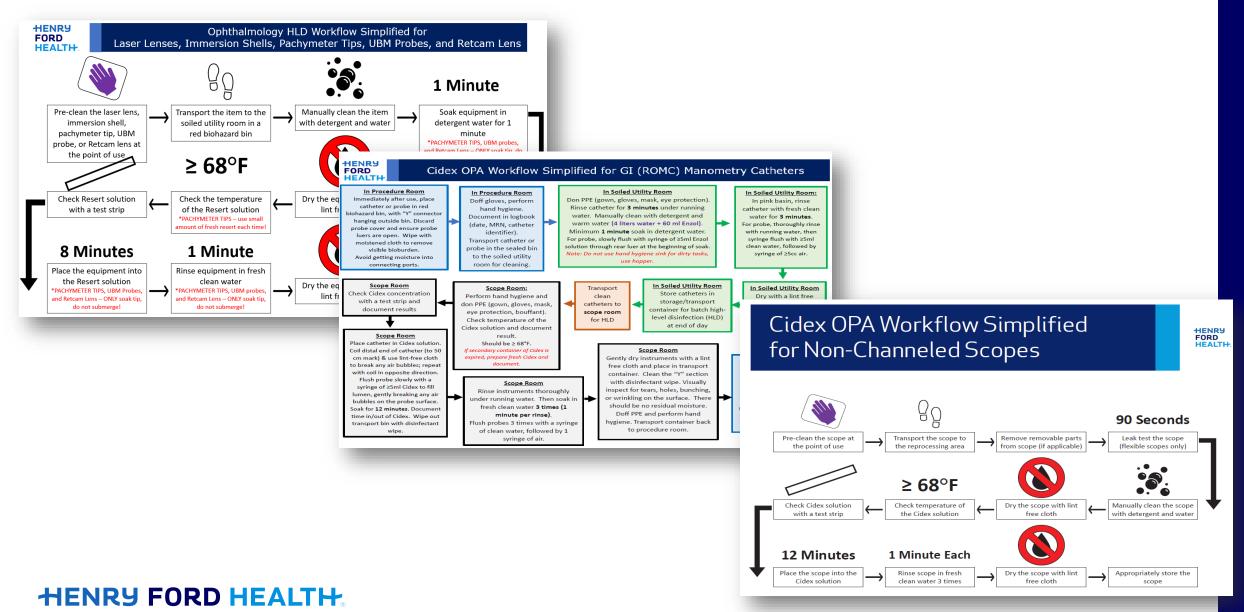
- After each audit, results are sent via an electronic database and through an email communication to leadership
- Electronic database requires department leader to review each finding and input their steps toward resolution
- Email summary allows for broader leadership and collaborators to be made aware of any concerns or to highlight successes
- If higher risk issues are identified during audits, a multidisciplinary team is pulled together to implement immediate action

Infection Prevention is Everybody's Business



Audit ▼	Number of HLD Audits	HLD Compliance
□ Trophon HLD Probe Audit	37	98.1%
	7	98.7%
	24	99.1%
	5	98.6%
⊞ ENT Scope HLD Audit Cidex OPA & Medivator	19	95.7%
⊞ Ambulatory - Ophthalmology HLD Audit (Resert)	38	99.1%
Total	130	98.1%

HLD & Sterilization: Continuous Education



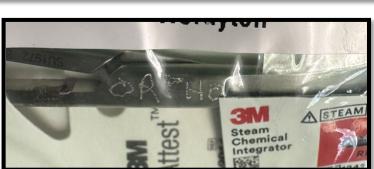
HLD & Sterilization: Risks and Initiatives

Risk	Initiatives
Standardizing HLD practices across sites	 System HLD meeting Website with up-to-date tip sheets, information on HLD Creation of HLD SOPs
Ensuring proper training & competency	Regular auditing and collaboration with interdepartmental teams (e.g., HLD Education Team, department leadership) to address identified gaps
New instruments/equipment requested by departments	Request departments to contact Infection Prevention prior to purchase for IFU review
Reprocessing room design/space constraints	Involved with department leadership to prioritize high risk updates needed for infrastructure
Clinic instrument sterilization/transport	 Discontinued use of all tabletop sterilizers in clinics Standardized products/process with a tip sheet of the steps posted in all soiled utility rooms that have instruments Created vehicle transport guidelines for transportation of instruments between sites and SPDs

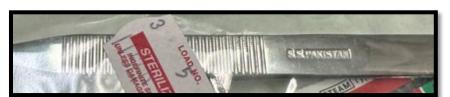
Sterilized Instruments in Ambulatory

- Appropriate management of sterilized instruments across vastly diverse clinic settings can be challenging
- Each clinic, specialty and even provider may have their own unique instrument needs. This introduces HUGE numbers of reusable instruments across Ambulatory
- More instruments unfortunately creates more opportunity for gaps

















Instrument Prep & Transport

- Properly preparing reusable instruments is essential
- Standardized instrument handling process across the system
 - Point of use
 - Containment
 - Transport to SPD
- All areas that use and prepare instruments for transport to the SPD must have the soiled instrument handling tip sheet posted in the Soiled Utility room/workroom for quick reference

North/South Market: Clinic Point of Use Treatment of Instruments and Transport to Sterile Processing Department



Point of Use: Care and Handling of Contaminated Reusable Instruments at Point of Use at Clinics

- 1. Soiled reusable items should be handled as little as possible at the point of use.
- Immediately after procedure, perform hand hygiene, don gloves and wipe down visibly soiled instruments with Intercept Wipes or a moist/damp cloth or gauze (dampened with water), removing all visible bioburden. Use caution when wiping sharp edges.
- Place soiled instruments in a biohazard transport bin.

 $If the \ exterior \ of \ the \ bin \ has \ become \ inadvertently \ soiled, \ wipe \ the \ outside \ of \ the \ bin \ with \ an \ approved \ disinfecting \ wipe.$

- 4. Remove and discard gloves, perform hand hygiene and secure the lid on the biohazard transport bin.
- 5. Transport biohazard bin to the containment area (soiled utility room if available), keeping the bin parallel to the floor. Do not wear gloves to transport the bin through the hallways.

Containme

- 1. Once in the containment area, unlatch the transport bin lid, perform hand hygiene, and don gloves
- If instruments are cannulated, don additional PPE (gown, mask, and eye protection), and brush or flush channels with water (unless otherwise directed by the Manufacturer's Instructions for Use (MIFU)).
- 3. Place instruments in external biohazard transport bin,
- a. Ensure instruments are in the open or loose position.
- b. Place instruments that are heavy on the bottom and lighter, more delicate instruments on the top.
- Do not overload the bins.
- Immediately spray instruments in external transport bin with approved spray. Instruments should be completely covered with product. If instruments are completely covered with the spray, product should keep instruments moist for 72 hours.
- Re-spray as necessary.
- Avoid over-applying product to prevent pooling at the bottom of bin.
- c. ProEz cannot be used for instruments that touch the eye. Use PreKlenz instead.
- 5. If the internal transport bin and external transport bin are not the same bin, wipe out the internal transportation biohazard bin with approved disinfecting wipe and return for re-use.

ransport: Preparation for Transportation to Sterile Processina Department (SPD)

- 1. Respray instruments as needed with approved spray, so they remain moist. Instruments should not be allowed to dry before they reach SPD.
- 2. The Request for Sterilization Form should be completed and sent with instruments. This informs the SPD staff where the instruments need to be returned to.
- The 3-part ISC Solutions Form should be completed and sent with instruments when shipping externally using a courier. This informs the driver on where to deliver the bins to.
- 4. Follow your department's process for transport to SPD. If SPD is not located within the building:
 - a. Send external biohazard transport bin to assigned SPD following the transport schedule.
 - b. Bin should be enclosed in a red biohazard bag with a goose necktie.
 - c. The request for sterilization form and ISC solutions form should be placed on the outside of the red bag in the packing list envelope. Packing list envelopes should never be applied directly on red bin.

Reminder: Instruments should not sit for an extended period of time.

Required Products
Transport Bins: (Large: 20" x 10"; Medium: 15" x 9"; Small: 10" x 6")
Intercept Wipes
ProEZ Foaming Enzymatic Spray
PreKlenz Spray (for instruments that touch the eye)
Request for Sterilization Form
ISC Solutions Form
Red Biohazard bag
Packing List Envelope

Please click here to visit the master list of PS#'s and supply order information

August 2024

Sterilized Instruments: Continuous Education

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Ambulatory Quality and Safety Bites

Inspecting Sterilized Instruments Before Use

Per The Joint Commission, sterile packages are to be inspected for integrity and compromised packages are repackaged and reprocessed prior to use.

In Ambulatory clinics that receive sterilized instruments from the Sterile Processing Department (SPD), it is important to inspect every peel pouch prior to use to ensure sterility is being maintained. Below are examples of non-compliance to watch for. If any of the below items are observed, DO NOT USE!

Peel Pouch Integrity Failed chemical

- integrator inside the pouch
 Holes/punctures to
- peel pouch
 Signs of moisture on
- the peel pouch

 Writing/marking on paper side of pouch

Instrument Integrity

- ❖ No tape or tape
- residue on instrument

 Unapproved etching
 on the instrument
 surface
- Product labeled "Centurion" or "Pakistan" are singleuse and not to be sent for reprocessing
- Any observed blood, rust, or pitting of the instruments (see tip sheet below)



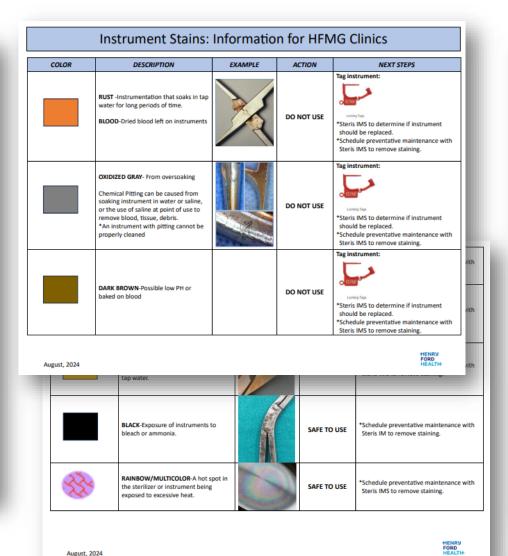
Unapproved laser etching

Approved laser etching

- For instrument staining concerns (i.e., blood, rust, pitting, watermarks, etc.), use the tip sheet linked <u>here</u> for next steps.
- For non-approved etching, remove instrument and order replacement.

Single-use instrument

For all other observed issues, follow the soiled instrument process and send instruments to the local SPD.



Vehicle Instrument Transport Guidelines



All soiled instruments are to be placed in a rigid container with a red biohazard bag tied around the container. The proper forms designating transport destination as well as the reprocessing inventory form will be attached to the outside of the bag.

Sterile trays that leave the sterile processing department will be individually wrapped in a clear, plastic bag with a clearly visible sticker that says "CLEAN".

Soiled Instrument Packaging



Clean Instrument Packaging



Required:

- ☐ Sterile instruments are not to be placed in corrugated cardboard boxes.
- ☐ If a soiled instrument bin is not properly contained as described above at the time of pick-up, the local staff should address before transporting the instrument bin.
- ☐ Ensure there is a separation of clean and contaminated items. Clean and contaminated items are never to be touching in the transport vehicle. A "clean" and a "dirty" area of the vehicle should be clearly demarcated.
- ☐ If a spill occurs or clean and dirty instrument bins come in contact with one another or is believed to possibly have occurred, transport vehicle must be decontaminated immediately after trip prior to the next trip.
- ☐ All bins are to be stored in a horizontal manner to prevent spillage or damage to the instruments and other items being transported.
- □ Personal protective equipment (i.e., gloves, biohazardous spill kit, etc.) is available on the transport vehicle if a contamination were to occur.
- ☐ Ensure the vehicle maintains a comfortable temperature and avoid temperature extremes that could enhance microbial growth.
- ☐ Clean and soiled instrument bins are to be placed on hard, cleanable surfaces only (i.e., rubber floor mats, plastic seat coverings, etc.).

Recommended:

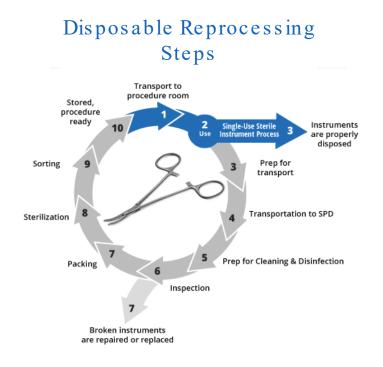
- ☐ Use of physical dividers to delineate clean and dirty separation.
- ☐ Cleaning transport vehicle between all trips, regardless of spills/cross-contamination concerns.
- *This guideline applies to couriers and Henry Ford Health team members. Instrument "reps" are not permitted to transport instruments from one Henry Ford site to another.

3/2025

Par Reduction and Reusable Instruments V



- High-volume usage of reusable instruments in combination with intermittent SPD staffing concerns, can lead to delayed turn around times for clinics to receive instruments back
- Continued compliance issues with management of reusable instruments is a patient safety and regulatory concern
- We are continuing to push toward reducing instrument inventory and replacing reusable instruments with <u>DISPOSABLE</u> or recyclable instruments where possible





Outpatient, Not Out of Risk

Ambulatory Surgical Site Infection Surveillance

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SSI Surveillance

- Looks different from inpatient setting
 - Not performing traditional CLABSI, CAUTI, LabID surveillance
- Outpatient SSI module for NHSN (Outpatient Procedure Component Surgical Site Infection – OPC-SSI
 - OPC SSI Surveillance (cdc.gov)
 - Not reportable unless your facility is enrolled
 - Similar definitions to inpatient SSI reporting,
 however no use of Chapter 17 for organ/space
 - Breast and KPRO infections are classified as own infection type (rather than General OPC-SSI criteria)



January 2025

Outpatient Procedure Component Surgical Site Infection (OPC-SSI) Surveillance

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January 2025

Outpatient Procedure Component - Surgical Site Infection

Table 4C. Table 4C. Knee prosthesis (KPRO) Surgical Site Infection Criteria

The Knee prosthesis (KPRO) Surgical Site Infection instructions apply to surgical site infections (SSIs) during the 30-day (superficial SSI) and 90-day (deep and organ/space SSI) surveillance periods following knee prosthesis performed in Ambulatory Surgery Centers (ASC). Use the General OPC-SSI criteria for all operative procedures except breast surgery (BRST) and knee prothesis (KPRO).

SSI Surveillance

Outpatient SSI Surveillance Components:

- OR Auditing
 - Surgical scrub process
 - Skin preparation
 - Aseptic technique adherence
 - Environment of care
 - Sterile processing department
- Increasing regulatory requirements from surveyors
 - SSI Data shared with State CMS (FSOF) surveyors
- Modified outpatient RCA tool
- More complex cases moving to ASCs (e.g., hip/knee replacements, spinal fusions)
- Need to choose what cases to perform surveillance on (your high-volume cases may not be NHSN reportable)





SSI Surveillance: Procedure Types

- Reports were pulled of all types and numbers of procedures performed at each location
 - ~20,000 individual surgical cases pulled
 - Compared which procedure CPT codes were already included in list of NHSN procedures
 - Not all cases we decided to review are included in the NHSN CPT list, but many are
- Excluded cataract cases (even though volume is very high, did not find SSI cases – not high risk)
- Collaborated with inpatient IP partners for two locations not yet part of ambulatory umbrella
- Compared data between sites
- Selected procedures:
 - That were the most complex
 - Had large numbers performed
 - Those with a previous history of adverse outcomes
- We continue to revise our list of reviewed procedures based on trends and areas of concern

HFH Ambulatory SSI Surveillance Procedures by ASC

Cottage:

- Mammoplasty Reduction
- Mastectomy Simple
- Arthroplasty Total Hip
- Arthroplasty Total Knee

Fairlane:

- o Mammaplasty Reduction
- o Excision Lesion with Radiological Marker Breast
- o Decompression Median Nerve w/Carpal Tunnel Release
- Austin-Akin Bunionectomy

Lakeside:

- o Repair Hernia Inguinal
- Austin-Akin Bunionectomy

Plymouth:

All procedures

Royal Oak:

- Arthroplasty Total Hip
- Arthroplasty Total Knee

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Ambulatory Construction & Facilities

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Construction

Challenges:

- New building construction vs. existing building construction
 - Encounter more sub-optimal building design issues in outpatient clinics
 - Lease vs. owned buildings
 - o Best practice vs. budget
 - Must follow FGI 2018 for outpatient settings (version currently recognized by TJC)



Facilities Issues

- The following issues occur frequently in ambulatory clinics:
 - Flooding, Leaks
 - Boil water advisories
 - Loss of water pressure
 - HVAC No A/C in summer
 - HVAC No heat in winter
 - Power outages
 - Fire/post-fire remediation
- Elements that complicate facilities issues include:
 - Lease vs owned buildings
 - Hours of operation (determining when issues started)
 - Proper communication/escalation









Tackling Construction & Facilities Issues

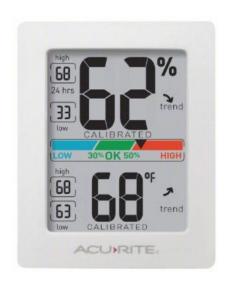
Construction:

- Utilizing 2018 FGI guidelines for new renovations
 - Balancing budget vs best practice
- Involved in design and construction phase of each project
- Working closely with new ambulatory operations manager to be informed of each project and ensure consistency throughout clinics
- Developed ICRA educational course for facilities staff and project managers

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Facilities Issues:

- 24/7 IC on-call phone
- Formation of the Ambulatory Response Team (ART)
- Use of hygrometers in sensitive areas
- Policy development on how to handle water intrusions and disruptions



Ambulatory Construction

- Many unique projects with diverse challenges
 - As IC and Regulatory requirements have evolved, old building infrastructure creates compliance challenges (e.g., an old closet being turned into a reprocessing room)
 - To support growing community needs, multiple free-standing medical centers have been built
 - Entire buildings have been closed and re-opened
- Infection Prevention is included throughout each step of the construction process, from initial design meetings, to ICRA walk throughs, to final sign-off



ICRA Process

- Infection Control is notified of upcoming project (either due to emergent need or planned construction)
 - IC is included in planning and design phase of construction to ensure all regulations are compliant
 - ICRA is completed by IC with input from members of construction team, facilities, clinical leaders (and others such as accreditation, employee safety, pharmacy as needed)
 - ICRA checklist is required for level 4 and 5 projects
 - Post construction assessments are required for level 4 and 5 projects

Infection Control Risk Assessment (ICRA) Form FORD ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS or EXEMPTIONS as follows (attach additional page(s) if necessary): Notify Infection Control of any change in scope of work, or any questions regarding requirements. Additional requirements include but are not limited to air quality requirements, utility requirements, noise, vibration, emergency procedures/preparedness Infection Control Risk Assessment (ICRA) Form FORD ntry? TYES Perform work activity in manner that does not block or interrupt patient care Spray exterior surface of water-damaged ceiling tiles with quaternary detergent germicide (e.g., Benefect) before th the Project Manager/Contractor Supervisor removal and replacement Initials Immediately replace a ceiling tile displaced when not actively working within tile area Level II: All Level I regulrements and the following: Utilize HEPA vacuum and wet sanding methods during any cutting/dust generating work a these requirements anged routinely and when visibly soiled. Infection Control Risk Assessment (ICRA) Form FORD stic containments/mobile HEPA em. Remove/isolate the supply air Project Title: np-wiped clean and free of visible dust/ Contractor Manager/Superintendent: Project Manager all times. "If negative pressure is required Construction Company Projected Start Date/Estimated Duration and all Level IV or V projects: ICRA form is valid until construction is complete, or a change in work scope is submitted Select Type | CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY Select Highest Risk INFECTION CONTROL RISK GROUP extend to ceiling or ceiling deck if ceiling is Type A: Inspection and noninvasive activities Group 1: Low Risk oust air to outside. Exhaust into shared or aust) is not acceptable ork containment to continually monito Group 2: Medium Risk minimal dust hing must be clean and free of visible dust Type C: Moderate to high dust generation or requires acceptable. demolition/removal of fixed building components/ Group 3: High Risk spected.

Group 4: Highest Risk

ntaminates do not enter the occupied

Require all to pass through to enter/exit site ties. Coveralls must be removed before

Construction Activity/Infection Control Matrix

Rationale:

Type D: Major demolition and construction projects

Construction Activity \Rightarrow RIsk Group ψ	Type A	Type B	Type C	Type D
Low	Levell	Levelli	LevelII	Level III*
Medium	Levell	Levelli	Level III*	LevelIV
High	Levell	Levelli	LevelIV	Level V
Highest	LevelIII	LevelIV	Level V	Level V

Rationale:

Environmental conditions that could affect human health, such as sewage, mold, asbestos, gray water and black water will require Class of Precaution IV for LOW and MEDIUM Risk Groups and Class of Precautions V for HIGH and HIGHEST Risk Groups.

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[&]quot;Type C [Medium Risk groups] and Type D [Low Risk Groups] work areas [Class III precautions] that cannot be sealed and completely isolated from occupied patient care spaces should be elevated to include negative air exhaust requirements as listed in Class IV Precautions.

Water Intrusions

Notification & Response:

- Have a plan!
- "Ambulatory Response Team"
 - Facilities, Infection Control, Operations Team
 Members, Clinic Leadership, Executive Leaders,
 Employee Safety, other departments as needed
- Do these photos look familiar?













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Other Ambulatory Considerations

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Environmental Cleaning

- Environmental services does not turn over rooms (even isolation rooms)
 - Frontline staff need to be educated on process
 - OR cleaning may not be done by environmental service staff as well
 - Environmental services may not be on site throughout the day (only come in evenings/once per day, may cover multiple sites)
 - Some sites utilize contracted companies (not health system employees)
- Initiatives:
 - OR cleaning process course and competency
 - Procedure room cleaning process course

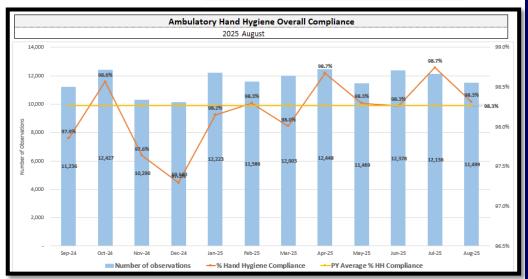




Hand Hygiene

- In most Ambulatory settings, hand hygiene opportunities take place behind closed doors in exam rooms (making typical "Stealth" or "Coaches" hand hygiene observations difficult)
- Patient observations via a voluntary, short survey have been an impactful alternative
- Requires collaboration with Patient Education, front desk staff, and clinic staff
- Surveys highlight the importance of hand hygiene to patients and allow patients to provide comments
- Average ~11,000-12,000 hand hygiene observations per month





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Summary

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Summary

- While the day-to-day of an IP in the Ambulatory Setting can be vastly different from an inpatient IP (due to differences in settings with unique staffing, patients, equipment, instruments, etc.), the focus remains on ensuring patient (and staff) safety
- Isolation precautions remain a critically important tool, regardless of the setting, to prevent the transmission of communicable diseases to staff and patients
 - Standardization of isolation types allows for a streamlined approach to isolation education and patient management across all settings
- Exposures and outbreaks in the Ambulatory setting can differ from those in an acute care setting due to differences in patient management/clinical workflow, staffing, building infrastructure, and methods of communication
- Maintaining compliant and safe HLD & Sterilization practices across the vast Ambulatory setting requires continuous auditing and consistent education
- Construction is consistently encountered in Ambulatory with unique challenges that must be worked through (ageing infrastructure, compliance concerns)



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- Outbreaks and Patient Notifications in Outpatient Settings, Selected Examples, 2010-2014 |
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- https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/opc/opc-ssi-protocol-current-508.pdf

Questions?

Contact Ambulatory Infection Prevention & Control

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