

# Using Isolation Gowns

## WHY?

- Some isolation precautions include the use of gowns. Gowns protect YOU, the wearer, from potentially infectious pathogens, blood and body fluids
- Activities that require you to have physical contact with a patient would warrant a gown.

### Examples:

- Assisting a transfer
- Walking the patient
- Repositioning them in bed
- Providing personal care
- Performing procedures on the patient

- Not every patient interaction has the need for a gown. Interactions that are not high risk contacts do not require you to wear a gown

### Examples:

- Signing paperwork
- Having a conversation
- Delivering a drink

*Simple hand hygiene would be sufficient to prevent the spread of germs in these scenarios*

## DISCONTINUE CONTACT

### ISOLATION (only to be done by Infection Prevention)

- **FACILITY INFECTION PREVENTION** team will review patients to determine who can be removed from isolation and communicate to staff on that unit.
- Patients with **ACUTE** MRSA, VRE, ESBL, AmpC and other MDROs remain in **contact isolation**.
- C.diff and other MDROs continue contact/contact PLUS isolation.
- MRSA surveillance screening should continue for all eligible patients.
- Continue to follow the **5 Moments of Hand Hygiene** and utilize **standard precautions** where appropriate.
- Utilize prioritized gown usage process

## PRIORITIZED GOWN USAGE

- Applies to patients in **CONTACT** or **CONTACT/ DROPLET with EYE PROTECTION** patients only.
- In addition to standard precautions, gowns are **REQUIRED** to be worn when performing the following procedures:
  - **Aerosol Generating Procedures (AGP)**
  - **Splash/spray patient activities** (NG irrigation)
  - **High-contact patient care activities**  
These activities include but not limited to:
    - Dressing or bathing/showering
    - Transferring
    - Changing linens
    - Toileting or incontinence care
    - Device use (NG, urinary catheter)
    - Wound care
- If only going into the room for minimal contact (give a medication, hang fluids, etc.), gown does not have to be worn.
- Follow standard precautions (and universal masking process) and only wear PPE appropriate for task.