

POINT OF CARE RISK ASSESSMENT

Before each patient/resident/client interaction, the health care worker completes a 'Point of Care Risk Assessment' (PCRA) by asking the following questions to determine the risk of exposure and appropriate Routine Practices and Additional Precautions required for safe care:

- What are the patient's symptoms?
- What is the degree of contact?
- What is the degree of contamination?
- What is the patient's level of understanding and cooperation?
- What is the degree of difficulty of the procedure being performed and the experience level of the care provider?
- What is my risk of exposure to blood, body fluids, excretions, secretions, non-intact skin and mucous membranes?

The PCRA allows the health care worker to determine what personal protective equipment (PPE) to select and wear for that interaction. PCRA should be performed even if the patient has been placed on Additional Precautions as more PPE may be required.

Will my hands be exposed to blood, excretions, secretions, tissues, non-intact skin or contaminated items in the environment?

If YES, perform hand hygiene and wear gloves





Will my face be exposed to a splash, spray, cough or sneeze?
Will I be within 2 metres of a coughing patient?

If YES, wear facial protection (includes mask and protective eyewear)



Will my skin or clothing be exposed to splashes or items contaminated with blood, body fluids excretions, secretions or non-intact skin?

If YES, wear a gown



Does the patient have a suspected or confirmed airborne illness (e.g. measles, tuberculosis chicken pox)? Am I performing an aerosolgenerating medical procedure (AGMP) on a patient with a suspected or confirmed novel or emerging respiratory

If YES, wear a respirator (N95)

