

Isolation Room Setup Recommendations for Rural and Remote Nursing Station

Preparation of the Isolation Room/Area

- Room should be located in an area with limited traffic
- Room should be close to a dedicated entrance if possible
- Isolation room should have separate ensuite bathroom if possible (toilet, shower, sink)
 - If no bathroom, have dedicated commode with single use liners
- Signs should be posted on the door/ area indicating that the space is an isolation area, and visitors are to check with the nurses before entering
- Remove all posters off the wall/bulletin boards (laminated COVID/ handwashing related posters are ok)
- Remove all items off desktops and countertops
- Remove all non-essential items out of the drawers and cupboards (see suggested items that can remain below in limited quantities)
- If no drawers or cupboards, place essential items in large clear bags if possible (i.e. ziploc)
- Remove curtains and any fabric room dividers
- Ensure appropriate handwashing facilities such as a sink and hand-hygiene supplies are available
 - Plain liquid soap (hands-free single use dispensers if possible)
 - Single use towels (i.e. paper towel)
 - Alcohol-based hand rub (hand free if possible). *Place near the room door*
- Sink/hand wash basin area should be checked, cleaned and stocked daily

Suggested items to remain in the room

- Single use emesis basin (2)
- Single use bedpan (2)
- Single use urinal (2)
- Bed linen (fitted sheets (2), and blankets (2))
- Disposable paper bed sheet and pillow case (2 each)
- Patient gowns: cloth (2) and paper gowns (2)
- Large waste bin (touch-free if possible) with appropriate bags. Ensure that used (i.e. dirty) bins remain inside the isolation room
- Dry erase board and marker
- Dedicated linen hamper (*with plastic liner if possible*).
- Sharps container (inside the isolation room)
- Water jug (if no potable tap water)
- Disposable cups (just a few)
- Kleenex (keep within patient's reach)
- Single use container with lid outside the door for single use equipment
- Ensure adequate cleaning supplies available such as Accel wipes to clean surfaces, instruments and equipment. *Ensure scrupulous daily cleaning of the isolation room daily, or between patients.*
- Dedicated telephone or other methods of communication (two-way radio) in the isolation room. This enables the patient, family members or visitors to communicate with each other or the nurse. This may reduce the number of times the nurse needs to don PPE to enter the room.

Suggested dedicated non-critical patient-care equipment (these items should not leave the room)

- IV pole and pump if available (if limited equipment, do not keep in the isolation room)
- High flow oxygen concentrator ((if limited equipment, do not keep in the isolation room)
- Oxygen tank (large)
- Glucometer and testing supplies (if extra available)
- Hemoque (if extra available)
- Stethoscope (adult and pediatric)
- Otoscope and ophthalmoscope unit and supplies (wall mounted if possible)
- Vital signs machine if available, if not ensure room has dedicated:
 - Thermometer and probe cover
 - Blood pressure monitor
 - Heart rate and O2 sat monitor

Furniture

- Remove all non-essential furniture and ensure that remaining furniture is easy to clean (plastic or vinyl material), and does not conceal or retain dirt or moisture. Recommended items are:
 - Hospital bed or stretcher
 - Chair for visitor
 - End table/ night stand
 - Procedure tray/table

Considerations for preparing ER/ holding room for respiratory clients

- Items not in cupboards or drawers should be removed.
- Keep supplies/ equipment to a minimum (i.e. consider moving baby warmer, bair hugger etc. to clean accessible storage room).
- Keep one of each frequently used ER item (that normally hang on the wall/ in open bins/ on shelves) available (ambu bag in each size, respiratory equipment etc.). Everything else should be removed, or they will have to be discarded after each respiratory client.
- IV start items can be laid out, but must all be discarded when cleaning room after patient if not used.
- Consider using 'single use equipment cart with clear cover' to house all items being removed from the ER room. This cart can be placed just outside the door of the room for easy access. Excess supplies should be returned to the clean storage room.
- Consider having PPE cart outside your ER.
- In an emergency situation, consider designating a 'runner/ clean nurse', if possible.

Wearing and removing personal protective equipment

- Stock/ setup the PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) supply outside the isolation room area on a trolley/ cart.

Before entering the isolation room or area:

- Collect all equipment/supplies needed;
- Perform hand hygiene (alcohol-based hand rub or wash with soap and water if hands are visibly soiled);
- Put on PPE in the order that ensures adequate placement of PPE items, and prevent self-contamination while performing duties (follow appropriate donning technique) e.g. hand hygiene, gown, mask or respirator, eye protection and gloves;
- Have donning poster with step by step instructions near PPE cart.

Leaving the isolation room or area

- Have doffing poster with step by step instructions near PPE cart;
- Remove PPE in an area that will not contaminate either the environment outside the isolation room, or other people. If anteroom is available, remove PPE in the anteroom;
- Remove PPE in a manner that prevents self-contamination or self-inoculation with contaminated PPE or hands (follow doffing procedures).
 - Remove the most contaminated PPE items first (gloves);
 - Perform hand hygiene immediately after removing gloves;
 - Remove the mask or particulate respirator last;
 - Discard items in a closed garbage bin if possible.

Checklist for PPE trolley/cart

The following items should be kept on the trolley/cart at all times, so the PPE is always available for health-care workers. Ensure donning and doffing instructions are posted with the cart. Cart should be checked at least daily, and restocked as needed.

Equipment	Stock present in sufficient quantities
Face shield	
Gloves (all sizes)	
Gowns (all sizes)	
Particulate respirators (N95 mask)- all available types	
Alcohol-based hand rub	
Medical (surgical or procedural) mask	