

## **FNIHB-OR Infection Prevention and Control Policy and Procedure Manual**

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### **Introduction**

The purpose of this manual is to provide infection prevention and control (IPAC) policies and procedures to First Nation and Inuit Health – Ontario Region (FNIHB-OR) Health Care Providers (HCPs). IPAC is a standard of practice that over arches all disciplines of health care programs. It should be noted that at the current time, this manual does not include IPAC information related to construction and renovation of health care facilities, nor the reprocessing of dental instruments or equipment. However, dental program policies and procedures for reprocessing instruments and equipment are available in a separate document.

### **Objectives**

The objectives of the Infection Prevention and Control Policy and Procedure Manual are:

1. To identify infection prevention and control best practices appropriate for First Nations Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) Nursing Stations and Community Health Centres
2. To consolidate IPAC best practices for all HCPs into a policy and procedure manual tailored to health care delivery in First Nation communities
3. To set a standard of practice for infection prevention and control that will be implemented by all HCPs

### **Target Group**

The contents of this manual are targeted for use by Health Canada First Nation and Inuit Health Branch health care providers who deliver health care services to First Nation communities throughout Ontario Region.

### **Types of Facilities**

Among the facilities providing health services to First Nations communities in Ontario, there are Community Health Centres and Nursing Stations (facilities providing both ambulatory and emergency/urgent care to remote or isolated communities where there is no hospital). Despite the different types of health care being provided, IPAC practices are generic to all types of health care settings.

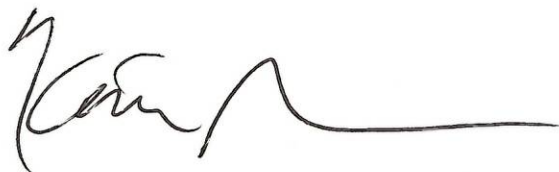
### **Companion Manual for Environmental Cleaning**

The policies and procedures in Section 8.0 (Environmental Cleaning) of this manual should be used in conjunction with the companion manual, FNIHB-OR *Environmental Cleaning Procedure Manual*. The companion manual provides step-by-step procedures for cleaning shared non-critical medical equipment such as blood pressure cuffs, stethoscopes, otoscopes, ophthalmoscopes, oximetry monitors, crutches, basins, k - basins, stretchers, walkers, and wheel chairs that may be used by nurses and other HCPs during client care within the health facility.

### **Suggested Ways to use the IPAC Policy and Procedure Manual**

1. Keep this manual in a readily available place as a reference on current IPAC best practices in the health care setting.
2. This manual should be used as part of the IPAC orientation for newly hired HCPs.
3. FNIHB staff should review this manual and could use this activity as part of their individual Learning and Development Plan within the Performance Management Agreement.
4. Supervisors/managers can use the policies and procedures to audit IPAC best practices in the health care setting and to develop appropriate education plans for the HCPs they supervise/manage.
5. In order to use this manual to capacity, FNIHB HCPs should review the next section (Overview of the Chain of Transmission) of this manual as part of their orientation and/or Learning and Development Plan to understand the basic principles behind infection prevention and control and how it relates to all health care delivery by all health care providers.

The policies and procedures in this manual are primarily based on the Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee (PIDAC) Best Practice documents. The best practices in this manual reflect the best evidence available at the time of development. As new information becomes available, these policies and procedures will be reviewed and updated.



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