

**Section 7: Principles of Cleaning and  
Disinfecting Environmental Surfaces**

Policy number: **7.7**

**Subject: Additional Precautions While  
Cleaning**

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## **1 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 Additional precautions (i.e. contact precautions, droplet precautions, a combination of droplet and contact precautions, and airborne precautions) are infection prevention and control interventions which are used **in addition to routine practices** to protect staff and clients by interrupting the transmission of specific infectious agents. Refer to Section 4.0: Additional Precautions for more information.

## **2 POLICY**

- 2.1 All health care workers must adhere to additional precautions **in addition to** routine practices when a sign is posted on a health facility door. (Refer to Appendix 42: Risk Assessment, Routine Practices plus Additional Precaution). All environmental cleaning workers must speak to the Nurse prior to entering the room.
- 2.2 Personal protective equipment (PPE) will be worn in accordance to the signage posted. Staff will be taught how to safely don and doff equipment so self- contamination will not occur. Hand hygiene will always follow after donning and doffing PPE.

## **3 PROCEDURE**

Refer to FNIHB-OR Environmental Cleaning Procedure Manual Part 2: Risk Assessment and Routine Practices to Prevent Infection

- 3.1 If additional precautions are required in the health facility, it is the nurse's responsibility to post appropriate signage (Refer to Appendix 42: Risk Assessment, Routine Practices and Additional Precautions) as soon as possible and to communicate to the environmental cleaning workers any additional information and/or instructions that may impact them and/or environmental cleaning practices for the specific location where this is required.
- 3.2 If an environmental cleaning worker sees signage (Refer to Appendix 24: Contact Precautions, Appendix 30: Droplet Precautions, Appendix 34: Droplet + Contact Precautions, and Appendix 35: Airborne Precautions) posted on a health facility door that indicates contact precautions, droplet precautions, droplet and contact precautions or airborne precautions are necessary, they must stop and not enter the room.

- 3.3 Prior to entering the room, the environmental cleaning worker must immediately speak to the Nurse-in-Charge (NIC) to obtain specific directions regarding the use of specific PPE and other instructions such as requirements for extra cleaning practices.
- 3.4 If the NIC is not available, the door to the room must remain closed and the environmental cleaning worker must not enter the room.
- 3.5 Refer to Policy 4.1: Additional Precautions for more information.

## 4 APPENDICES

**Appendix 24:** FNIHB-OR: Environmental Cleaning Procedure Manual Part 2: Risk Assessment and Routine Practices to Prevent Infection. Contact Precautions

**Appendix 30:** FNIHB-OR: Environmental Cleaning Procedure Manual Part 2: Risk Assessment and Routine Practices to Prevent Infection. Droplet Precautions

**Appendix 34:** FNIHB-OR: Environmental Cleaning Procedure Manual Part 2: Risk Assessment and Routine Practices to Prevent Infection. Droplet + Contact Precautions

**Appendix 35:** FNIHB-OR: Environmental Cleaning Procedure Manual Part 2: Risk Assessment and Routine Practices to Prevent Infection. Airborne Precautions

**Appendix 42:** FNIHB-OR: Environmental Cleaning Procedure Manual Part 2: Risk Assessment, Routine Practices Plus Additional Precautions

## 5 REFERENCES

First Nations Inuit Health Branch-Ontario Region. (2013). Environmental Cleaning Procedure Manual. Retrieved from <https://www2.onehealth.ca>

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