

Personal Protective Clothing

When in isolation the healthcare staff may need to wear gloves, aprons and /or masks before they enter your room.

After contact with you they will be required to remove and dispose of these items and clean their hands before leaving your isolation room.



Visitors do not always need to wear these items unless advised by ward staff; however it is necessary for them to clean their hands after visiting you.



Further information

If you require more information please do not hesitate to contact the Infection Prevention & Control Team.

The Infection Prevention & Control Team

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Adapted from AMNCH with permission June 2010



Infection Prevention & Control Team information leaflet

For

Patients and Visitors

Naas General Hospital

February 2011

The Infection Prevention & Control Team

The role of the Infection Prevention & Control Team is to promote best infection control practice in order to ensure the safe delivery of a quality service for patients, visitors and staff. The Infection Prevention & Control Team do this by:

- Educating healthcare workers on the importance of infection prevention & control including potential risks of infection
- Providing advice on management of patients with suspected or confirmed infections that can be spread easily from patient to patient
- Developing and revising policies/guidelines for the prevention and control of infection
- Communication and provision of readily available information to the healthcare worker and patient on infection control.

How can I contact the infection Prevention & Control Team?

Contact the Clinical Nurse Manager or Nurse in charge if you would like to speak to a member of the Infection Prevention and Control Team

Isolation

You may need to be moved into a single room for isolation to limit infection spreading from person to person. Depending on your infection a coloured sign will be placed on your door that reads "Please check at the nurses station before entering the room". It is necessary for your visitors to check with your nurse before they visit you.

Is there a risk of catching an infection while in hospital?

All people carry germs on their body e.g., on the skin or in the gut. When these germs spread to other parts of the body they may cause infection. Some patients in hospital have an infectious disease that can be easily spread from person to person. Many of these germs and diseases are already present in the community.

People vary in their ability to fight infection. If a person has had surgery, has a poor immune system due to an underlying illness, poor general health or poor appetite, they may be more likely to pick up an infection.

Germs spread through direct contact with skin or body fluids (for example blood or urine) or indirectly through contact with equipment or air particles (for example from a patient coughing).

Visiting

During outbreaks of infection it may be necessary to restrict visiting in certain areas of the hospital in the interest of both visitor and patient safety.

If you are feeling unwell, have diarrhoea, vomiting, potentially infectious rashes e.g. Shingles, Chickenpox or Measles or Flu like symptoms please do not visit as you may pose a risk to vulnerable patients in the hospital.

The importance of clean hands

Keeping hands clean is one of the key ways to control the spread of infection in hospital. Patients and visitors should wash their hands or clean their hands with the alcohol gels provided.



Remember it only takes 30 seconds!

It is equally important that all healthcare staff clean their hands before and after contact with you.



If you notice a failure with this practice please feel free to remind the healthcare worker