

**SECTION 9000: INFECTION PREVENTION
POLICY 9002
NORTH MEMORIAL AMBULATORY SURGERY CENTER AT MAPLE GROVE
STANDARD PRECAUTIONS**

SCOPE:

This policy and procedure applies to all NMASCMG

PURPOSE:

Standard Precautions are the first line of defense in preventing the transmission of microorganisms between Health Care Professional (HCP), patients, families, visitors and the environment. Standard Precautions are applied to all patients in the healthcare setting.

POLICY:

A. Hand Hygiene

Hand hygiene is the single most effective measure that can be undertaken to decrease the transmission of organisms between HCP, patients, and the environment. All staff, regardless their role, are expected to follow hand hygiene guidelines as outlined in the NMASCMG Hand Hygiene Policy.

B. Respiratory Hygiene

Intended to limit the spread of infectious organisms from persons with potentially undiagnosed respiratory infections.

1. Posted signs at facility entries with instructions for prevention and transmission of respiratory illness (i.e., Cover Your Cough).
2. Control measures (tissues, surgical masks) to enable patient and visitors to cover sneezes and coughs.
3. Availability of hand hygiene products sources throughout the facility including the entrance and waiting area.
4. Encourage patients or visitors with respiratory symptoms to sit apart from other people in the waiting room.

C. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

1. Gloves
 - i. Should be worn when HCP anticipates touching the mucous membranes or non-intact skin of a patient or any patient blood, body fluids, secretions or excretions.
 - ii. Gloves should also be worn when handling or touching equipment or environmental surfaces that have been contaminated.
 - iii. Hand hygiene should always be practiced immediately when gloves are removed.
2. Mask
 - i. Should be worn to protect the HCP and patient from infectious agents in nose or mouth.
 - ii. For protection of the HCP during procedures and patient-care activities that are likely to generate splashes or sprays of blood, body fluids , secretions or excretions.
3. Goggle/Face Shield
 - i. Should be worn to protect the HCP eyes and face from sprays of respiratory secretions, blood or body fluids.
 - ii. Personal eyeglasses or contact lenses do not provide adequate protection.
4. Gown

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- i. Should be worn when HCP are performing patient care activities or procedures in which exposed skin or clothing are likely to be exposed to any patient blood body fluids, secretions, or excretions.

D. Environmental Cleaning

Cleaning and disinfecting of all surfaces and devices in patient care areas is an integral part of Standard Precautions.

1. All equipment and devices including computers that enter the patient care area should be cleaned after use.
2. Noncritical patient care equipment should be cleaned and disinfected after each patient use.
3. Soiled linen should be handled utilizing a method that prevents microorganisms from being transmitted to other people and the environment.

E. Safe Injection Practices

1. Single-use disposable syringe and needle are used for each injection.
2. Sterile packaging should be opened immediately prior to use.
3. Single-dose vials should be used whenever possible, and the diaphragm should be disinfected with an antiseptic immediately prior to accessing.
4. Used needles should never be recapped, bent, or broken.
5. All used sharps should be placed immediately in an approved puncture-resistant container that is designated for sharps disposal.

References

APIC Text of Infection Control and Epidemiology 4th Edition 2014