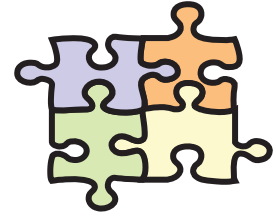


Infection Connection

"The Intent is to Prevent"



May 2010



Isolation Signage

Magnets

Isolation information contained on Contact, Droplet, Airborne, Chickenpox, Neutropenic and Transplant isolation signs have been affixed to magnetic backing that can be attached to metal door frames. They look like smaller versions of the

conventional signs and will be distributed in the upcoming months. The isolation magnets are easy to clean for repeated use and are to be used in addition to the isolation door signs. The placement of the magnetic sign on the door frame is to alert the individual entering a room in which the door is open and the isolation sign is not in full view.

Kardex Isolation Stickers Discontinued

The small sized isolation stickers were not used frequently and have been discontinued.

Ordering Isolation Signs

Please use the Isolation Sign Ordering Form found on the Infection Control & Prevention website - <http://lvhwebcontent.lvh.com/?id=1928&sid=1>

Infection Control and Prevention Website

Impressive changes have been made to the website for easier access of information. Check it out at the following link <http://lvhwebcontent.lvh.com/?id=135&sid=1>. Useful information can be found including past issues of Infection Control Updates and the more recent Infection Connections. Infection prevention topics published in the Pennsylvania Patient Safety Authority Bulletins are also archived in our website. Past bulletins contain information on the reduction of Ventilator Associated Pneumonia, Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infections and Clostridium Difficile Infection. You can also find the name of the Infection Control Practitioner that is assigned to your unit/department under "Liaison List".

Seasonal Flu Vaccine

Screening for seasonal flu vaccine can be discontinued. Next season's vaccine will protect against the 2009 H1N1 pandemic virus and 2 other flu viruses. Screening will begin again in October or when vaccine supplies become available. A notice will be distributed when it is time to begin screening for seasonal flu vaccine.

Transporting Patients on Neutropenic Precautions



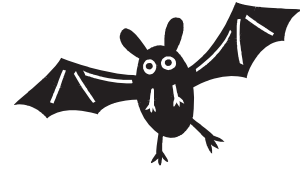
A recent case review of neutropenic patients that developed influenza during their hospitalization led to the recommendation that patients on neutropenic precautions should wear a mask during transport. A surgical mask should be placed on the patient when out of their room in route to another department or unit.

Blood and Body Fluid Exposure Packet

An additional Blood and Body Fluid exposure packet has been created for non-employees. They will be available in the Emergency Rooms effective June 1.

Animal Bite Form

The Animal Bite form, which can be found in the Animal Bite Protocol – Emergency Department policy in the Infection Control & Prevention manual, has been revised to resemble the health bureau form.



Keep Yourself Safe

When drawing blood, please keep yourself and your patients safe by keeping the gloves intact. Tearing the finger tips off the glove is a violation of the OSHA Bloodborne Pathogen Standard.

IV Protocol

IVs should be changed within 24 hours for all patients that have been transferred to Lehigh Valley Health Network.



Airborne Infection Isolation Room (AIIR) Alarms

Please do not turn off or mute the alarms in Airborne Infection Isolation Rooms.

Chloraprep

Chloraprep is the preferred disinfectant for all invasive procedures.

Urinary Tract Infections

Do your part to help reduce catheter-associated UTIs. Remember your foley facts - don't put them in unless you have to - remove them ASAP!

Infection Preventionist

In keeping up with the evolving world of Infection Control and The Joint Commission, the title of Infection Control Practitioner will now be changed to INFECTION PREVENTIONIST (IPs).

