

### If I am the patient, what should I do?

- You should follow the instructions given by your care provider.
- You will be asked to stay in your room with the door closed.
- You will be asked to wear a facemask when exiting the room, and you should avoid coming into close contact with other patients.
- You will be asked to practice respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette.

### If I am a family member or other visitor, what should I do?

- Persons visiting patients on airborne contact precautions should follow facility employee instructions.
- The N-95 respiratory monitor should be donned prior to room entry and removed after exiting room. You should wash your hands before and after the visit.
- Visitors should avoid coming into contact with the patient's bodily fluids.

Remember your hand washing Techniques

## How to Handwash?

WASH HANDS WHEN VISIBLY SOILED! OTHERWISE, USE HANDRUB

 Duration of the entire procedure: 40-60 seconds



*'Getting Better Together'*

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## AIRBORNE CONTACT PRECAUTIONS

## Patient Education

Infection Control Department

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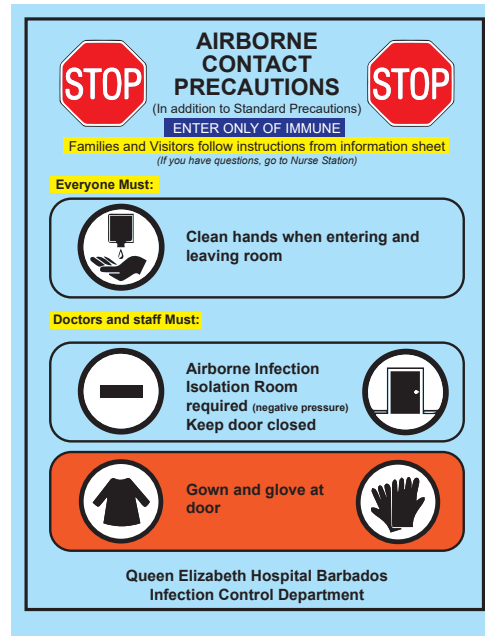
## What is Airborne Contact Precaution?

Airborne precautions are required to protect against airborne transmission of infectious agents. Microorganisms carried by the airborne route can be widely dispersed by air currents and may become inhaled by a susceptible host in the same room or over a long distance from the source patient – depending on environmental factors such as temperature and ventilation.

## What kind of infections can be spread by airborne contact precaution?

- Measles
- Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS),
- Varicella (chickenpox),
- TB (*Mycobacterium tuberculosis*).

## What does the sign look like?



## What should the care providers be doing?

Preventing airborne transmission requires personal respiratory protection and special ventilation and air handling. The respirator should be donned prior to room entry and removed after exiting room. Respirators filter the air you breathe to help protect you from microorganisms including bacteria and many viruses.

Wear a face mask when there is potential contact with respiratory secretions and sprays of blood or body fluids.

## Special Factors

- Patients on airborne contact precaution should be nursed in a private room.
- Patients should remain in the room except for medically necessary procedures or therapies.
- Gloves must be worn for contact with patients or touching anything within the room.
- A gown should be worn if it is likely that clothing will come into contact with the patient or any surfaces within the patient care environment.
- A mask and eye protection should be worn if splashing or splattering of any contaminated substance is likely.
- Patient care items such as blood pressure cuff, stethoscopes or thermometer should be “dedicated” (used only for that patient and disinfected or discarded after the patient is discharged).