

Standard precautions

Standard precautions must always be used when caring for all patients, regardless of their infection status



1 Perform hand hygiene



2 Use personal protective equipment (PPE)*



3 Use respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette



4 Use aseptic technique



5 Use and dispose of sharps safely



6 Clean and reprocess reusable patient equipment



7 Perform routine environmental cleaning



8 Handle and store waste safely



9 Handle and store linen safely

*When used as part of **standard precautions**, PPE protects against probable exposure to blood and body substances. When used as a part of **transmission-based precautions**, PPE serves as a barrier to specific means of transmission of infectious agents.