

LET US NOT FORGET, RESPIRATORY HYGIENE & COUGH ETIQUETTE

ANGELA M. WARREN MS, BSN, RN, CIC
CLINICAL INFECTION PREVENTION CONSULTANT

https://spice.unc.edu/
https://spice.unc.edu/ask-spice/





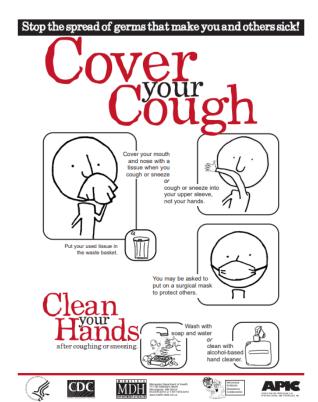
THE END IS NEAR....

MAY 11TH THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ENDS!!

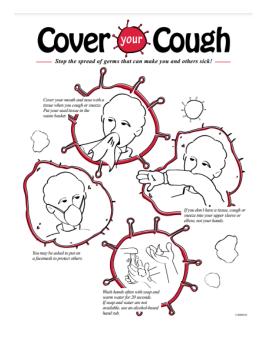




WHAT SHOULDN'T END???



- Standard Precautions/Transmissionbased precautions
 - Respiratory hygiene & cough etiquette
 - Staff not coming to work when ill
 - Personal comfort level of protection







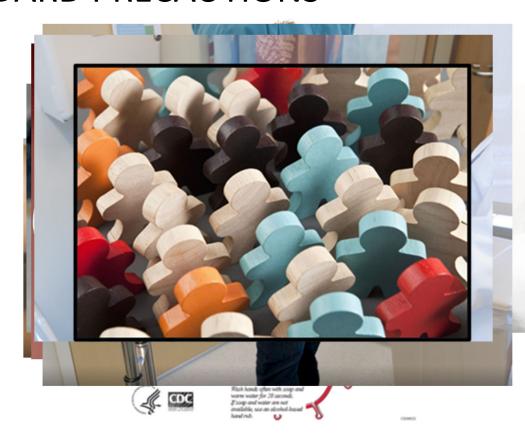
ELEMENTS OF STANDARD PRECAUTIONS: A REMINDER

- Standard precautions are common sense practices and PPE use to protect the healthcare staff from infection and prevent the spread of infection from patient to patient, or resident to resident.
- ► The minimum infection prevention practices that apply to ALL patient/resident care regardless of the suspected or confirmed infection status of the patient/resident in any setting where healthcare is delivered.



ELEMENTS OF STANDARD PRECAUTIONS

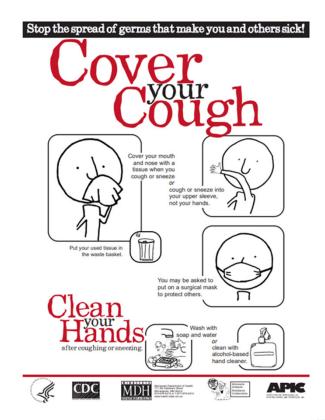
- ► Hand hygiene
- Use of personal protective equipment such as gowns, gloves and masks
- Respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette
- Safe injection practices & Safe handling of sharps
- ► Infection Control Practices for Special Lumbar Puncture Procedures (use of a mask)
- Cleaning and disinfection of the environment, patient care equipment, and instruments/devices
- Safe handling of potentially contaminated equipment and patient care items
- And to remember this is for all patients, all the time.

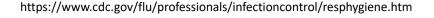




RESPIRATORY HYGIENE/COUGH ETIQUETTE IN HEALTHCARE SETTINGS

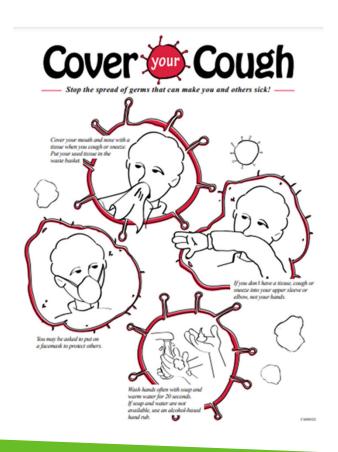
- ► Visual alerts
 - ▶ Patients, residents & visitors
 - ► In appropriate languages
 - ► Entrance of all facilities
 - Instructions to inform staff & adhere to respiratory hygiene& cough etiquette







RESPIRATORY HYGIENE/COUGH ETIQUETTE



- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing/sneezing
 - If tissue is unavailable sneeze/cough into elbow
- Dispose of tissue in nearest waste receptacle after use
- Perform hand hygiene immediately after disposing of tissue
 - Soap and water
 - ► Alcohol-based hand rub
- Wear a mask if having respiratory symptoms/fever



MASKING AND SEPARATION

- ► Respiratory Hygiene Stations
 - Signage, tissues, open access trash receptacle, masks & alcohol-based hand rub
 - Main entrance
 - ► All facility types
 - Year round
- ► Instruct patient/residents & visitors to sit away from others
 - ▶ When space/chairs permit
 - ▶ 3-6 ft away

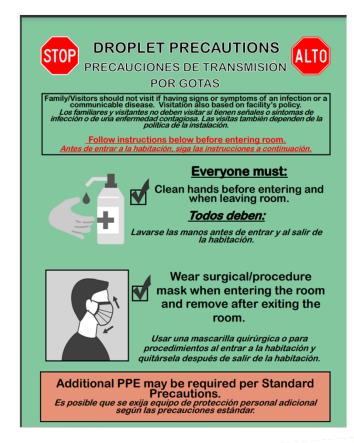




TRANSMISSION-BASE PRECAUTIONS

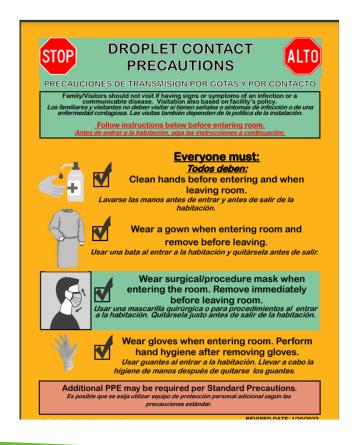
- Always used in combination w/standard precautions never instead of
- Implement immediately for suspected or confirmed respiratory illnesses (you do not need an order from a provider)

We must NOT become complacent!





TRANSMISSION-BASED PRECAUTIONS CONT'D







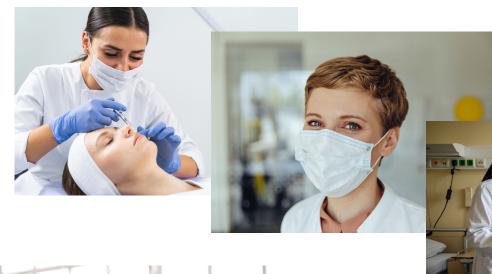
STAFF DOING THEIR PART





YOU DO YOU









QUESTIONS





RESOURCES

- https://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/infectioncontrol/resphygiene.htm
- https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2023/02/09/fact-sheet-covid-19-public-health-emergency-transition-roadmap.htm
- https://spice.unc.edu/
- https://spice.unc.edu/ask-spice/
- https://spice.unc.edu/resources/signage/
- https://stacks.cdc.gov/view/cdc/23304

