

Isolation Precautions

Attachment 5: Isolation Guidelines for Vaccinia Recipients

Patients with Recent (≤ 4 weeks) Vaccinia Immunization

- Local Lesion Only
 - Patient will be placed on Contact Isolation.
 - If the patient has an active lesion on the arm, it should be covered with a sterile gauze and then a semipermeable dressing.
 - Any dressing removed from the lesion should be placed in a plastic bag, sealed, and discarded in the red bag trash.
 - Dressing should be changed at least every 3 days and sooner if it gets wet or dirty.
 - The patient should be evaluated daily for the development of satellite lesions, remote lesions, and adverse reactions due to vaccinia.
 - When being transported in the hospital for medical studies, the patients should cover themselves with a blanket that completely covers the bandage.
 - Bag the patient's clothing and quarantine for 24 hours before allowing patient/family to take home.
 - Quarantine linen removed from the patient's bed for 24 hours (in the patient's room). After 24 hours, the linen can be handled using standard precautions in the same manner as any other dirty linen.
- Remote Lesions, Progressive Vaccinia, Generalized Vaccinia, Eczema Vaccinatum
 - Patient will be placed on Contact isolation.
 - If possible, lesions should be covered with sterile gauze and then a semipermeable dressing.
 - To the extent possible, all medical procedures should be performed in the patient's room (e.g., x-ray)
 - To the extent possible, when being transported in the hospital for medical studies, the patient should cover themselves with a blanket that completely covers all lesions
 - Bag the patient's clothing and quarantine for 24 hours before allowing patient/family to take home
 - Limit visitors to close relatives (no children).

Visitors with Recent (≤ 4 weeks) Vaccinia Immunization

- Visitors with a recent immunization and active lesions should refrain from visiting within UNC Hospitals until the scab falls off revealing healthy skin

Reference:

<https://www.cdc.gov/smallpox/vaccine-basics/who-gets-vaccination.html>