

Airborne Precautions Education Plan

Getting Ready to Learn About Airborne Precautions

Learning something new can be hard. It is even harder if you are not feeling well. The purpose of this education plan is for you and the staff to review the following information together. Here are some good things to tell the staff:

- Who you want to learn with you. We would like to have someone who will be helping you at home learn with you.
- The best way for you to learn. Do you learn best by reading a book or pamphlet, or by doing things yourself?
- If you are not feeling well, if you are in pain or you cannot focus on learning right now.

This information is important to your health. We may explain something more than once.

What I Need to Learn About Airborne Precautions

I will be able to tell the staff:

1. What airborne precautions are.
2. Why I have been placed in airborne precautions.
3. What the hospital staff will do while I am in airborne precautions.
4. What my visitors will do while I am in airborne precautions.
5. What I will do while I am in airborne precautions.

The staff will use three questions and answers to teach me about Airborne Precautions:

- What is my main problem?
- What do I need to do?
- Why is this important to me?

The staff will ask me to repeat back important points in my own words, or ask me to show them what I have learned. They want to make sure that I understand Airborne Precautions.

What is my main problem?

I may have an infection that could be harmful if spread to other patients, staff or my visitors. This infection may be spread by coughing, sneezing or talking. This infection is spread through very small droplets in the air. This germ can be inhaled by another person.

What do I need to do?

I will tell the staff what airborne precautions are.

- Airborne precautions are rules that are followed by me, the staff and my visitors while I am in the hospital.
- Airborne precautions are a way of stopping the spread of germs from person to person.

I will tell the staff why I have been placed in airborne precautions.

- I have been placed in airborne precautions because I may have an infection caused by germs that are hard to treat. These germs may be spread to others when I cough, sneeze or talk.
- I have been placed in airborne precautions to stop the spread of germs to other patients, staff and my visitors.

I will tell the staff what they will do while I am in airborne precautions.

- A blue “Airborne Precautions” sign will be placed outside my door.
- I will be placed in a special room called a “negative-pressure” room.
- All staff entering my room will come into my room through a room called an “anteroom”. This room will contain special masks called “respirators” for everyone to use.
- Staff will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer when entering my room and when leaving my room.
- Staff will wash their hands before and after providing care.

- Staff will wear a mask when in my room.

I will tell the staff what my visitors will do while I am in airborne precautions.

- My visitors will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer when they enter and leave my room.
- My visitors should not bring items into or out of my room.
- My visitors should not enter my room if they are sick.
- My visitors will enter my room through the “anteroom”.
- My visitors will wear a surgical mask when in my room. This mask will look different than the mask the staff wears.

I will tell the staff what I will do while I am in airborne precautions.

- I will wash my hands or use hand sanitizer often.
- I will wash my hands or use hand sanitizer before eating.
- I will cover my mouth and nose with a tissue when I cough or sneeze.
- I will put my used tissue in the waste basket.
- I will wash my hands or use hand sanitizer after coughing or sneezing.
- I will wash my hands or use hand sanitizer when leaving my room for any reason.
- I will try not to leave my room unless necessary.
- I will wear a surgical mask when leaving my room for any reason.
- If I do not see hospital staff washing their hands or using hand sanitizer, I will remind them to do so.
- I will remind my visitors and hospital staff to follow airborne precautions in my room.

Why is this important to me?

I have an infection that could be harmful if spread to others. I need to help stop the spread of this infection.

As part of my care I may also receive the following:

- My own personal bottle of hand sanitizer.

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Resources for Staff

- [Nursing Reference Center Plus](#)- Airborne Precautions

Teaching Tools

- Airborne Precautions Education Plan

References

- [Nursing Reference Center Plus](#)

Always close each teaching session with the question, “What questions do you have for me?”

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