

# Preventing infections in satellite haemodialysis units

Requirement	Transmission based precautions			
	Standard	Airborne	Droplet	Contact
<b>Gloves</b>	Worn to protect the hands when there is a risk of contact with blood or body substances.	As per standard precautions.	As per standard precautions.	For all manual contact with patient, associated devices and immediate environmental surfaces.
<b>Impermeable apron/gown</b>	Worn to protect clothing when there is a risk of splashing or contamination with blood or body substances.	As per standard precautions.	As per standard precautions.	When health care worker's clothing is in substantial contact with the patient, items in contact with the patient, and their immediate environment.
<b>Respirator or mask</b>	Refer to AS 4381:2000 for additional information. Worn to protect mouth when there is a risk of splashing or contamination with blood or body substances.	P2/N95 particulate respirator for tuberculosis only. All others, use face mask suited to the purpose such as a mask that filters to 0.1 microns and has a splash resistant shield.	Yes –mask*.	Protect face if splash likely.
<b>Goggles/face-shields</b>	Worn to protect eyes and face when there is a risk of splashing or contamination with blood or body substances.	Protect face if splash likely.	Protect face if splash likely.	Protect face if splash likely.
<b>Special handling of equipment</b>	Chairs, haemodialysis machines and other direct patient contact equipment is cleaned after the patient is discharged using a neutral detergent and warm water solution. Haemodialysis machines should be cleaned and disinfected according to manufacturers instructions.	Single use or reprocess before reuse on next patient (includes all equipment in contact with patient). *check with local infection control regarding disinfectant use.	Single use or reprocess before reuse on next patient (includes all equipment in contact with patient). *check with local infection control regarding disinfectant use.	
<b>Single room</b>	No.	Dialyse in a single room or Cohort patients with same infection. Door closed.	Dialyse in a single room or segregated area of the unit (See also other requirements).	Dialyse in a single room or segregated area of the unit or cohort with patient with the same infection.
<b>Single room with negative pressure air handling system</b>	No.	Essential for pulmonary TB.	No.	No.
<b>Transport or transfer of patients</b>	No.	Appropriate mask* for patient Notify area receiving patient.	Appropriate mask* for patient Notify area receiving patient.	Notify area receiving patient prior to transfer.
<b>Other requirements</b>		Encourage patients to cover nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing and wash their hands after blowing nose.	Provide one metre of separation between patients in ward accommodation.	Remove gloves and gown, and wash hands immediately on leaving patient.

\* Refer to Australian Standards:

AS 4381:2000 Single-use face masks for use in health care, for additional information

AS/NZS 1715 Selection, use and maintenance of respiratory protective devices

AS/NZS 1716:1994 Respiratory protective devices Adapted from the Blue Book, Department of Human Services