Enhanced Barrier Precautions (EBP) Implementation—Observations Tool
(For use in Skilled Nursing Facilities/Nursing Homes only)

This NEW tool should be used only after you have established the use of Enhanced Barrier Precautions (EBP) in your facility (either in a unit, wing, or entire facility), and can be customized to meet the needs of the skilled nursing facility/nursing home. This tool is designed to support the conducting of observations of healthcare personnel (HCP) using EPB during high-contact resident care activities as a part of auditing and feedback. Responses should refer to current practices.

Facility Name: _____

Date of Assessment: _____

Observations

In general, these observations should be conducted covertly (i.e., HCP are not aware they are being observed), and the observer should collect information on as many EBP practices as feasible across a variety of HCP types and care units (if EBP has been implemented in more than one unit). While the observer should aim to assess as many of the listed elements as possible, ofte, only partial observations can be made, such as only observing a HCP don (put on) but not doff (take off) personal protective equipment (PPE). However, this can still provide valuable information on overall EBP practices in a facility.

1. **Title or role of person conducting observation**

    Nurse (RN, LVN, LPN)

    Nurse—Unit manager or above

    Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant (NP/PA)

    Wound care staff

    Administrative staff

    Student (nurse, physician, other)

    Certified Nursing Assistant/Patient Care Associate/Patient Care Technician (CNA/PCA/PCT)

    Physician

    Infection Preventionist

    Housekeeping/Environmental Services Staff

    Other, please specify:

    _____

2. **Specify, as applicable, where the EBP observation occurred**

    Unit: _____

    Room: _____

    Bed identification (ex. A, B, 1, 2) if multiple beds per room: _____

3. **Criteria for the use of EBP** *(Select all that apply)*

    Wound

    Indwelling medical device—Type:

    > Central line/Peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC)

    > Urinary catheter

    > Feeding tube

    > Tracheostomy tube

    > Ventilator

    Multidrug-resistant organism (MDRO) colonization or MDRO infection

    Other, please specify: _____

    Unknown: _____

4. **If question is answered as "Unknown", please specify what the facility is doing to determine the process for tracking residents meeting criteria for EBP:**

> EBP refer to the use of gown and gloves during high-contact resident care activities that provide opportunities for transfer of MDROs to staff hands and clothing

5. **Title or role of person providing high-contact resident care**

   Emergency medical service personnel

   Nurse (RN, LVN, LPN)

   Nursing assistant (CNA, PCT, PCA)

   Licensed provider (MD, DO, DDS, Podiatrist, NP, PA)

   Physical/Occupational/Speech Therapist

   Phlebotomist/Lab technician

   Sitter/personal caregiver (hired)

   Other contractual staff not employed by facility

   Student

   Other/unknown, please specify: _____

6. **High-contact resident care activity being observed** *(Select all that apply)*

   Dressing

   Bathing/Showering

   Transferring

   Changing briefs or assisting with toileting

   Providing hygiene

   Changing linens

   Indwelling medical device care or use

   Wound care

   Other, please specify: _____

> HCP can reduce gown and gloves consumption by bundling multiple care activities (e.g., changing briefs, assisting with toileting, bathing/showering and providing hygiene could be bundled with changing linens) in the same resident interaction. In the next resident interaction, indwelling medical device care or use might be bundled with wound care in resident interaction with other HCP in the same room.

7. **During the high-contact resident care activity, was a gown and/or gloves used throughout the activity?**

   Gloves

   Yes

   No

   Unknown

   Gown

   Yes

   No

   Unknown

8. **If a gown and/or gloves was not used, during which high-contact resident care activities was a gown and/or gloves not used?**
   (Select all that apply)

   Dressing

   Bathing/Showering

   Transferring

   Changing briefs or assisting with toileting

   Providing hygiene

   Changing linens

   Indwelling medical device care or use

   Wound care*

   Other, please specify: _____

   > *Review https://www.cdc.gov/hai/containment/faqs.html for clarification of wounds in the context of EBP

9. **Is an appropriate* EBP sign present near the resident room door?**

   Yes

   No

   Unknown

   If yes, is the sign clearly visible?

   Yes

   No

   Unknown

   > *Signs are intended to signal to individuals entering the room the specific actions they should take to protect themselves and the resident. To do this effectively, the sign must contain information about the type of Precautions and the recommended PPE to be worn when caring for the resident. The EBP sign should also include a list of the high-contact resident care activities for which PPE (gown and gloves) should be worn. Generic signs that instruct individuals to speak to the nurse are not adequate to ensure EBP are followed. Signs should not include information about a resident's diagnosis or the reason for the use of EBP (e.g., presence of a resistant germ, wound).

10. **Are gowns and gloves readily available to the staff entering the resident(s) room?**

    Yes

    No

    Unknown

    If yes, what is available?

    Gown

    Gloves

    Other, please specify: _____

    If yes, where is the PPE located? *(Select all that apply)*

    Immediately outside the room

    Inside the room

    Other, please specify: _____

    > PPE supplies should be well-stocked and easy to access prior to room entry: "Ensure that healthcare personnel have immediate access to and are trained and able to select, put on, remove, and dispose of PPE in a manner that protects themselves, the patient, and others."
    > Source: Core Infection Prevention and Control Practices for Safe Healthcare Delivery in All Settings (HICPAC) https://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/pdf/core-practices.pdf

11. Is alcohol-based hand sanitizer (ABHS) readily available to the HCP entering the resident(s) room?

    Yes

    No

    Unknown

If yes, where is the ABHS located? *(Select all that apply)*

    Immediately outside the room

    Inside the room

    Other, please specify: _____

> The 2002 Guideline for Hand Hygiene in Healthcare Settings states, "Easy access to hand hygiene supplies…is essential for optimal adherence to hand hygiene recommendations." Easy access should include placement within the HCP workflow and proximity to point of use. "To improve hand-hygiene adherence among personnel who work in areas in which high workloads and high intensity of patient care are anticipated, make an alcohol-based hand rub available at the entrance to the patient's room or at the bedside, in other convenient locations, and in individual pocket-sized containers to be carried by HCWs."
>
> Sources: Core Practices | HICPAC | CDC Hand Hygiene | Guidelines Library | Infection Control | CDC and Information about fire safety requirements is available at: Fire Safety and ABS | Hand Hygiene | CDC

12. Is a trash receptacle available for staff to discard used PPE?

    Yes

    No

    Unknown

If yes, where is the trash receptacle located? *(Select all that apply)*

    Inside the room

    Outside of the room

    Other, please specify: _____

> Use trash receptacles lined with plastic bags that can be securely tied shut. Trash bags should not be overfilled. Place trash in an area separated from the living spaces, preferably in trash bins. Have waste pick-ups scheduled frequently—daily, if possible.

13. Is the room where high-contact resident care is being observed a multi-resident room (i.e., semi-private)?

    Yes

    No

    Unknown

13a. If yes, is the HCP planning to provide care to another resident in the same room?

    Yes

    No

    Unknown

14. If question 13a is answered "Yes", did the HCP complete the following before providing care to another resident in the same room? Gown and gloves are doffed (removed) after the HCP completes care with the first resident

    Yes

    No

    Unknown

Hand hygiene is performed after doffing (removing) gown and gloves

    Yes

    No

    Unknown

15. If question 13a is answered "Yes", is the next resident who is going to be provided care also using EBP?

    Yes

    No

    Unknown

16. If question 15 is answered "Yes", did the HCP complete the following before providing care to the next resident in the same room? Gown and gloves are donned (put on) before providing high-contact resident care?

    Yes

    No

    Unknown

17. After completing care for the resident, was the used gown and gloves discarded in the nearest trash receptable?

    Yes

    No, please specify what was seen: _____

    Unknown

  If yes, where was the trash receptable located?

    Inside the room

    Outside of the room

    Other, please specify: _____

18. After completing care for the resident and discarding the gown and gloves, did the HCP perform hand hygiene?

    Yes

    No, please specify what was seen: _____

    Unknown

> EBP require the use of gown and gloves only for high-contact resident care activities (unless otherwise indicated as part of Standard Precautions). Residents on EBP are not restricted to their rooms and do not require placement in a private room. EBP also allow residents to participate in group activities.
>
> When residents are placed in shared rooms, facilities must implement strategies to help minimize transmission of pathogens between roommates, including: maintaining spatial separation of at least 3 feet between beds to reduce opportunities for inadvertent sharing of items between the residents, use of privacy curtains to limit direct contact, cleaning and disinfecting any shared reusable equipment, cleaning and disinfecting environmental surfaces on a more frequent schedule, and changing personal protective equipment (if worn) and performing hand hygiene when switching care from one roommate to another.
>
> Source: https://www.cdc.gov/hai/containment/faqs.html

19. If any opportunities for improvement were observed, was real-time feedback provided to the staff member?

    Yes

    No

    Unknown

20. If question 19 is answered "No", please briefly describe any plans to summarize observations and provide feedback to HCP another time