Gastrointestinal Illness in Continuing Care

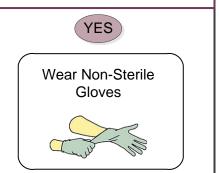
Does the individual have **new** onset of **diarrhea** and/or **vomiting** not related to changes in medication or diet?

Look for two or more episodes of diarrhea and/or vomiting or one episode of vomiting and diarrhea in a 24 hr. period that is new or unusual for the individual https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/info/Page6421.aspx

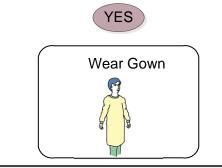
Complete a **Point of Care Risk Assessment (PCRA)** before every contact.

Assess the transmission risk between the individual, the task to be performed, and the environment. **Clean your hands** before and after PPE use.

Could my hands be exposed to blood and/or body fluids / contaminated items?



Could my clothing or skin become soiled from splashes/ sprays or contact with items contaminated with blood and/or body fluids?



Could my eyes or face or mucous membranes be splashed or sprayed with blood and/or body fluids?

or
Could I be within 2 meters of

Could I be within 2 meters of coughing or vomiting individual?



Place on **Contact** Precautions if only having diarrhea.

Place on **Droplet and Contact Precautions** if having vomiting.

Focus on:

PCRA – encourage everyone to think about contact with individual and choose appropriate personal protective equipment.

Hand hygiene – clean hands using soap and water, assist visitors with cleaning their hands.

Monitor and assess – others for symptoms and place on additional precautions and post outbreak signage. **Instructing visitors** – on good visiting practices such as hand hygiene, limiting number of individuals they visit, not visiting if they are unwell.

Increased frequency of cleaning & disinfection – of individuals room and washroom is essential during outbreaks.

Original date: January 2020

Dedicate – washroom, commode and equipment to individual.

Contain – if individual is incontinent, implement measures to contain stool.

Refer to the Continuing Care Infection Prevention and Control Diseases and Conditions Table

Alberta Health
Services
Infection Prevention

For more information, contact <u>ipcsurvstdadmin@ahs.ca</u>