



MICROBIOLOGY

UNIT # V

CONCEPT OF ISOLATION
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ISOLATION

Definition

- Isolation refers to the precautions that are taken in the hospital to prevent the spread of an infectious agent from an infected or colonized patient to susceptible persons.

Purpose

- Isolation practices are designed to minimize the transmission of infection in the hospital, using current understanding of the way infections can transmit. Isolation should be done in a user friendly, well-accepted, inexpensive way that interferes as little as possible with patient care, minimizes patient discomfort, and avoids unnecessary use.

EXPLANATION



In health care, **isolation** refers to various measures taken to prevent contagious diseases from being spread from a patient to other patients, health care workers, and visitors, or from others to a particular patient. Various forms of isolation exist, some of which contact procedures are modified, and others in which the patient is kept away from all others.

Isolation is most commonly used when a patient has a viral illness. Special equipment is used in the treatment of patients on the various forms of isolation. These most commonly include gowns, masks, and gloves.

TYPES OF ISOLATION



Strict isolation

Strict isolation is used for diseases spread through the air and in some cases by contact. Patients must be placed in isolation to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. Those who are kept in strict isolation are often kept in a special room at the facility designed for that purpose. Such rooms are equipped with a special lavatory and care giving equipment, and a sink and waste disposal are provided for workers upon leaving the area.

Contact isolation

Contact isolation is used to prevent the spread of diseases that can be spread through contact with open wounds. Health care workers making contact with a patient on contact isolation are required to wear gloves, and in some cases, a gown.

TYPES OF ISOLATION



Respiratory isolation

Respiratory isolation is used for diseases that are spread through particles that are exhaled. Those having contact with or exposure to such a patient are required to wear a mask.

Blood and body fluids precautions

This method is used when there is concern about communicable diseases found in a patient's body fluid. Health care workers making contact with the patient when body fluids are involved must wear gloves.

Reverse isolation

Reverse isolation is a method to prevent a patient in a compromised health situation from being contaminated by other people or objects.

NURSE RESPONSIBILITIES

Frequent hand washing

Keeping working area clean and neat

Keeping working equipments microbes free

Using various types of barriers eg gloves, gowns, masks etc

Avoid unnecessary visits of patients

Avoid overcrowding at nursing units and wards



THE END



THANK YOU STUDENTS