

AHCA/NCAL Clinical Scenario Teaching Tool – Enhanced Barrier Precautions #2

Clinical Scenario – EBP #2

Michelle, the infection preventionist in this facility, did not arrive at work as early as she had planned, leaving her with little to no time to prepare for the morning standup. She quickly reviewed the week's tasks and upcoming meetings before grabbing her clipboard and heading to the conference room, thinking, "Mondays." During the meeting, a colleague reminded the team about the upcoming QAPI meeting and requested reports to finalize the agenda. Michelle quickly realized she still needed to complete infection control rounds for both last week and this week. Grateful for the reminder, she gathered her audit tools and headed out, determined to conduct thorough infection control rounds with a focus on ensuring compliance with Enhanced Barrier Precautions (EBP). As she worked, she kept in mind something the corporate Infection Control nurse had said not long ago: "CMS will be focusing on interviewing staff to determine if they know which residents require EBP before providing high-contact care." She knew they would also assess whether PPE was readily available to staff and ask where to find more if there was a short supply.

Reviewing the list of new resident admissions, she considers Mr. Buchanan, a resident with urinary incontinence and a family reported history of a "colonization infection with something they called an MDRO."

Questions

- 1. Would this situation require the use of Enhanced Barrier Precautions and why or why not?**
 - a. Yes, because of the history of colonization.
 - b. Yes, because he is incontinent.
 - c. Maybe — it depends on the type of resistant organism.
 - d. No because it's too cumbersome.

- 2. How many key infection control breaches did Michelle witness?**
 - a. Just one — failure to wear a gown as part of a high contact activity.
 - b. Just one — failure to perform hand hygiene immediately after glove removal.
 - c. Two — both failure to wear a gown and perform hand hygiene.
 - d. None.

- 3. Is Nick required to wear a gown to administer oral medications to a resident on EBP? Why or why not?**
 - a. No, the regulations are clear that administering oral medications is never a high contact activity.

- b. Maybe, this is not listed as a specific high contact activity, however if the nurse needed to assist this resident to sitting position with an arm behind their back to support them and they generally need assistance to the bathroom, it could require a gown too because of the high contact.
- c. Yes, entering the room of someone on EBP requires a gown and gloves.

4. What would be George's best response?

- a. "I would notify the charge nurse, who would then contact the manager to determine if there is a shortage and order more supplies."
- b. "I would inform the nursing assistant supervisor."
- c. Go to another unit to get some additional PPE for his unit.
- d. All of the above.

5. Should staff wear a gown and gloves when transferring a resident in a common area if the resident is on Enhanced Barrier Precautions?

- a. Generally, no, Enhanced Barrier Precautions is primarily intended to apply to care that occurs within a resident's room where high-contact resident care activities, including transfers, are bundled together with other high contact care activities, such as part of morning or evening care.
- b. Yes, it's a high contact activity and they are on EBP, so no clinical judgement is indicated.

6. Do physical and occupational therapists need to wear a gown and gloves when working with residents on EBP?

- a. Yes, therapy is always a high contact activity.
- b. No, they never have to wear PPE in therapy.
- c. Maybe, it depends on the activities and contact that would result.

7. What key points would Michelle include in her report to QAPI to provide education and assess compliance when staff are delivering safe patient care to be prepared for a CMS survey? Choose all that apply.

- a. EBP applies to residents with chronic wounds, indwelling devices, or MDROs (targeted or epidemiologically important).
- b. Gloves and gowns should be worn for high-contact care activities, but not necessarily for routine interactions like medication administration.
- c. Michelle will discipline Myrtle and have a meeting with Jay to determine if he is doing his rounds to ensure compliance with EBP to increase leadership enforcement.

- d. Hand hygiene before and after glove use is critical to prevent MDRO transmission.
- e. If someone suspects a PPE shortage, please contact herself, the DON or the Administrator, who would be able to assess the situation and ensure the necessary supplies are restocked or arrange for alternative options.

References for all content:

- [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) about Enhanced Barrier Precautions in Nursing Homes | LTCFs | CDC.](#)
- [The Shift Coach Program | AHCA NCAL | AHCA Education.](#)