

ANSWERS

Transmission-Based Precautions

1. Answer: Place the patient in a negative pressure room and wear an N95 respirator

Rationale: Tuberculosis (TB) spreads through airborne particles. Patients require airborne precautions – a negative pressure room, door closed, and N95 respirator for anyone entering. Gloves and gown are added if contact with body fluids is expected.

2. Answer: Surgical mask and eye protection within 2 metres of the patient

Rationale: Influenza is transmitted by large droplets that travel short distances (≤ 2 m). PPE includes a surgical mask, eye protection, and hand hygiene. Gloves and gown are added if contact with secretions or contaminated surfaces occurs.

3. Answer: Contact precautions

Rationale: MRSA (Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus) spreads by direct or indirect contact with contaminated skin, dressings, or surfaces. The LPN must wear gown and gloves, dedicate patient equipment, and clean hands with soap or alcohol-based solution.

4. Answer: Airborne and contact

Rationale: Varicella spreads by airborne particles and direct contact with vesicle fluid. The nurse must use N95 respirator, gown, gloves, and isolate the patient in a negative pressure room.

5. Answer: Wash hands with soap and water after patient care

Rationale: C. difficile spores resist alcohol-based rubs. Therefore,



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soap and water is mandatory after glove removal. Contact precautions (gloves + gown) are required, and the environment must be disinfected with sporicidal agents.

6. Answer: Surgical mask

Rationale: Meningococcus spreads through respiratory droplets. The nurse wears a surgical mask within 2 m of the patient. An N95 is unnecessary unless performing aerosol-generating procedures. Droplet precautions are maintained for 24 hours after antibiotic initiation.

7. Answer: For 4 days after rash appears

Rationale: Airborne precautions for measles are required until 4 days after rash onset (or for the duration of illness in immunocompromised patients). The nurse wears an N95 respirator, and the patient stays in a negative pressure room.

8. Answer: Contact and droplet

Rationale: When two pathogens require different precautions, apply the highest level of both. MRSA = contact; influenza = droplet. The LPN must wear gown, gloves, surgical mask, and eye protection when within 2 m of the patient.

9. Answer: Obtain a new, properly fitted N95 respirator before entering

Rationale: An N95 respirator must form a complete seal to filter airborne particles. A damaged mask invalidates protection. The LPN must not enter the room until properly equipped.



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10. Answer: Visitors must wear gloves and gown and wash hands with soap and water after leaving

Rationale: Visitors are part of infection control. For C. difficile, they must use contact precautions and perform handwashing with soap and water, since alcohol-based rubs are ineffective against spores.

11. Answer:

Tuberculosis – Airborne

Mycobacterium tuberculosis spreads through microscopic airborne droplet nuclei; requires N95 respirator and negative pressure room.

Influenza – Droplet

Spread by large respiratory droplets within 2 metres; use surgical mask and eye protection.

Meningococcal meningitis – Droplet

Spread by droplets; mask within 2 m until antibiotics have been given for 24 hours.

COVID-19 (acute phase) – Contact + Droplet

Transmitted by droplets and contaminated surfaces; use mask, eye protection, gown, gloves.

Scabies – Contact

Parasitic mite spreads by prolonged skin contact; gown, gloves, and cleaning of linens needed.



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12. Answer:

MRSA wound infection – Contact

Transmitted by direct or indirect contact with contaminated dressings or surfaces.

Measles (rubeola) – Airborne

Highly contagious airborne virus; N95 and negative pressure isolation required.

Meningococcal meningitis – Droplet

Spread by droplets; mask within 2 m until antibiotics have been given for 24 hours.

RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) – Contact + Droplet

Virus spreads by both direct contact and large respiratory droplets in infants/elderly.

Varicella (chickenpox) – Airborne + Contact

Transmitted both through air and by direct contact with vesicular fluid.

✓ Quick Review Tip (Mnemonic):

- Airborne = **MTV** → **M**easles, **T**uberculosis, **V**aricella
- Droplet = **SPIDERMAN** → **S**epsis, **P**ertussis, **I**nfluenza, **D**iphtheria, **E**piglottitis, **R**ubella, **M**eningitis, **A**de**N**ovirus
- Contact = **MRS WEE** → **M**RSA, **R**SV, **S**kin infections, **W**ound infection, **E**nteric infections, **E**ye infections

