

MINIMIZING THE RISK FOR ILLNESS FOR STAFF

By implementing these measures consistently, staff contribute to a safer healthcare environment and reduce the risk of infection transmission among residents, colleagues,

1



Perform Hand Hygiene

Perform hand hygiene using alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water after using the restroom, handling food, bodily fluids, waste, or respiratory secretions. When providing resident care, assist residents with hand hygiene before meals and after toileting to reduce the risk of transmission.

2



Wear Personal Protective Equipment

Use appropriate PPE based on the type of exposure risk, including gloves, masks, gowns, and eye protection when caring for symptomatic residents or handling contaminated materials. Follow proper donning and doffing techniques to prevent cross-contamination, and dispose of PPE according to facility protocols.

3



Stay Home When Ill

If you experience gastrointestinal or respiratory symptoms, notify your supervisor immediately and remain off work until symptom-free for at least 48 hours. Follow facility policies regarding return-to-work clearance, and participate in active symptom monitoring during outbreaks.

4



Cleaning and Disinfection Protocol

Routinely disinfect high-touch surfaces, including medical equipment, handrails, doorknobs, tabletops, and staff workstations. Use facility-approved disinfectants and ensure correct contact time for maximum effectiveness. Implement enhanced cleaning protocols during outbreak situations.

5



Environmental Hygiene in Communal Areas

Increase cleaning frequency in shared spaces such as dining areas, lounges, and staff break rooms. Ensure surfaces that come into frequent contact with hands, such as tabletops, chairs, light switches, and elevator buttons, are cleaned regularly with appropriate disinfectants.

6



Waste Management

Dispose of contaminated waste, including PPE, tissues, and bodily fluid spills, in covered, lined bins per facility and regulatory guidelines. Use appropriate spill kits to safely contain and disinfect any biohazardous material.