TAKEAWAY

Use personal protective equipment (PPE) in a manner that prevents exposure to blood, body fluids, and other potentially infectious materials.

EXPLANATION

- **NEW** Health care personnel frequently fail to use PPE correctly, especially during PPE removal, which may lead to self-contamination with potential pathogens. 2.12.

- **NEW** Remove personal protective equipment in a sequence that prevents the wearer from touching the contaminated portion of the PPE where exposure was most likely to occur (eg, outside of the gown and gloves, front of the eye protection, front of the mask or respirator). 2.3.9., 2.4.7., 2.4.8., 2.5.5., 2.6.10., 2.7.8.

- **NEW** After PPE is removed, discard and perform hand hygiene. 2.6.10. and 2.7.8.

- **NEW** Identify barriers to PPE use in the perioperative setting and implement interventions to improve PPE compliance. 2.12.

- **NEW** Deliver education on PPE use and removal procedures to perioperative personnel in an active training format (eg, face-to-face instruction, fluorescent marker simulation). 2.13.

**NEW** Select gown and mask type according to the task and the degree of exposure anticipated.

- The level of protection provided by the isolation or surgical gown may be stated on the product label as ANSI/AAMI PB70 barrier performance levels and associated test methods, with higher barrier levels providing more protection to the wearer. 2.4.3.

- Select the isolation or surgical gown that fully covers the wearer’s torso from the neck to the knees and the wearer’s arms to the end of wrists and wraps around the back. 2.4.4.

- Maintaining coverage of the gown cuff by the glove is important to protect the wearer from exposure at the wrist.
  - A gown with a thumb loop may be worn under the glove to secure the gown sleeve.
  - Gloves with extended cuffs may be worn to maintain coverage of the gown cuffs. 2.4.6.

- The level of protection provided by the surgical mask may be determined by the ASTM barrier level as stated on the product label, with higher barrier levels providing more protection to the wearer. 2.6.4.
TAKEAWAY

Use contact, droplet, and airborne precautions, as necessary, during patient transport.

EXPLANATION

- Take precautions to reduce the opportunity for transmission of pathogens to other patients, personnel, and visitors and to reduce contamination of the environment. 3.3., 4.3., 5.3.
  - Before transport, notify the receiving team members that the patient is coming and what precautions should be taken. 3.3.1., 4.3.1., 5.3.1.
  - For contact precautions, contain and cover the infected or colonized areas of the patient's body. 3.3.1.
  - For droplet and airborne precautions, have the patient wear a mask and follow respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette. 4.3.3. and 5.3.3.

- NEW Wear PPE during transport according to organizational policy and when direct contact with the patient is necessary during transport (eg, an intubated patient). Contaminated PPE (ie, gloves, gowns) should not be worn to touch doors, elevator buttons, identification badges, or environmental surfaces during transport. 3.3.3.

- NEW At the transport destination, don gowns and gloves before coming into contact with the patient. 3.3.4.

NEW Instruct a patient's visitors to wear PPE when the patient is under contact, droplet, or airborne precautions.

NEW Visitors to perioperative patients may reduce the risk for transmission of pathogens to other patients in common waiting areas by following transmission-based precautions and performing hand hygiene. 3.9.

NEW Instruct visitors to wear PPE in the patient's room and to perform hand hygiene upon entering and exiting the room.
  - For contact precautions, the visitor should wear a gown and gloves. 3.9.
  - For droplet precautions, the visitors should wear a mask. 4.5.
  - For airborne precautions, the visitor should wear a mask. The visitor may wear an N95 respirator, although the respirator is most effective when the mask is fit tested and the wearer is trained in respirator use. 4.10.