

APPENDIX B

INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Infection Safety is everyone's accountability and achieved through collaboration toward a common goal of providing safe care to the people we serve while protecting our staff and physicians. Volunteers play an important role in preventing infections by following proper infection control measures and care of one's own health. To ensure the well-being of all patients, residents, caregivers, visitors and staff, we ask you to follow these guidelines to help reduce the spread of germs at St. Joseph's Health Care London.

Hand hygiene is one of the most effective means of preventing spread of infections. Most germs in hospitals are spread by unclean hands. Each time a person touches an object or another person, germs go along for the ride.

Everyone should clean their hands:

- Upon entering and when leaving the facility or the unit
- Before and after touching the patient or the patient's environment
- Before and after eating
- When hands are visibly soiled
- After using the bathroom
- After coughing or sneezing

Alcohol based hand rubs are effective in cleaning your hands when they are not visibly soiled. Alcohol based hand rubs are available in every patient/ resident/ clinic rooms, and entrances as well as other locations throughout the facility. Soap and water are used when hands are visibly soiled or as an alternative to alcohol based hand rubs. If you are using soap and water, don't forget to use a paper towel to turn off the taps.

Isolation of Patients/ Residents

Patients and residents are placed on special precautions to stop the spread of infections. There are 4 different special precautions that may be applied depending on the illness. You will see a signage on the door to remind others about the requirements of the special precautions. Pay attention to this signage and consult with a healthcare provider before entering the patient's room.



Outbreaks

Respiratory and Gastro-intestinal outbreaks can spread quickly in any health care facility. If a unit has declared on outbreak, signage and outbreak measures will be in place. Depending on the type and severity of the outbreak, some activities may be cancelled and certain care providers and affiliates may not be allowed to enter such as during an influenza outbreak. During an influenza outbreak, only vaccinated staff and affiliates will be allowed to enter the outbreak unit.

Volunteers should be in good health when reporting to their assignment at St Joseph's Health Care London. Please do not come to your assigned site if you are feeling unwell.

If you have any questions prior to volunteering at St. Joseph's Health Care London, please contact:

[Main contact for volunteer group
Phone, extension
Email
Office location and hours of operation]