



PATIENT EDUCATION: DROPLET CONTACT PRECAUTIONS

*Helping
you, your
family and
visitors
understand
these
precautions
more
clearly*

- There are a number of different ways that germs can move from person to person. Sometimes, germs spread in droplets that come out of a person's mouth or nose when they cough, sneeze, talk or laugh. These germs can land directly on other people or on objects and surfaces in the environment where people touch them. If people touch their eyes, nose or mouth with hands that have just touched the germs, they could become sick. "Droplet Contact Precautions" will help prevent the germs from getting in and on other people.

Other Information:

The hospital staff will:

- Place a Purple Droplet Contact sign on your door to let people coming in know what to do
- Wash their hands with either soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer before and after **EVERY** encounter with you
- Wear gloves on their hands, gowns over their clothes and a mask and eye protection when they care for you
- Ask you to perform hand hygiene and wear a mask and clean gown before leaving the room

It is okay to remind the staff to wash their hands!

Patients can help by:

- Cleaning your hands frequently with either soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer, especially after you cough or sneeze
- Covering your mouth with your sleeve or a tissue when you cough or sneeze
- Not leaving your room unless medically necessary and wearing a mask and clean gown when you do
- Making sure visitors read the sign on your door and wash their hands

For Family and Visitors:

- Family and visitors should put on gloves, a gown, a mask and eye protection before they enter your room
- Before leaving your room, they must remove and dispose of their gloves, gown, mask and eye protection. Then they must clean their hands with either soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Family and visitors should not eat or drink while in your room
- It is best for family and visitors to avoid using patient restrooms.