



Enhanced Barrier Precautions Mini Education Facilitator Guide

July 2025

Enhanced Barrier Precautions

Introduction

Mini education sessions are guided discussions created to provide short, on-the-spot learning opportunities. Each education session focuses on a specific topic that health care workers can apply to their daily work activities. Each topic can be customized based on the health care setting type.

A mini education session can be integrated into pre-shift huddles or team meetings and can be facilitated by a knowledgeable team member with expertise in infection control. Key elements to include in your mini education sessions are listed below:

- Align the content with facility policies and protocols based on the educational topic, adapting as needed.
- Build on the audience's knowledge and experience to connect the content to local context or relevant recent events.
- Use mini education sessions to reinforce infection control concepts when risks are observed in the care of residents, or in the resident environmental surroundings.

1. Introduce the Topic

Share key points about the topic your audience should know and relate it to your specific local context. Examples:

- Enhanced barrier precautions (EBP) is an intervention used to prevent the transmission of multidrug-resistant organisms (MDRO) in long-term care facilities.
- EBP applies to residents who are colonized or infected with a multidrug-resistant organism, as well as those at increased risk for MDRO acquisition, such as residents with wounds or indwelling medical devices.
- EBP focuses on close contact care procedures such as bathing, incontinence care, transfers, wound care, indwelling device care, etc.

2. Expand on the Topic

Share information about what your audience should do. Examples:

- When residents have identified MDRO colonization or infection, open wounds, or indwelling devices, personal protective equipment (PPE) is indicated for close contact care procedures.
- PPE for EBP includes a gown and gloves prior to initiation of close contact care procedures.
- Clean your hands when you enter a resident room care area, prior to donning PPE, after doffing PPE, after touching resident environmental surroundings, and when exiting the resident room or care area.
- Type of disinfectant will be determined by facility or organization's policy and identified prior to performing cleaning and disinfection in the resident's room or care area.
- EBP expands on standard precautions which anticipates blood and body fluid exposure. EBP were created based on studies demonstrating MDRO transmission as a result of MDRO transfer to the hands and clothing of health care personnel, even if blood and body fluid exposure is not anticipated.

If you have additional questions, please contact the Florida Department of Health's Health Care-Associated Infection Prevention Program at:

HAI_Program@flhealth.gov or 850-245-4401.

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- Contact precautions are indicated if the resident has acute diarrhea, draining wounds, or other sites of secretions or excretions that are unable to be covered or contained. Contact precautions are also indicated for a limited period of time during a suspected or confirmed MDRO outbreak investigation. EBP is indicated for wound care even if the resident is not MDRO colonized or infected.

3. Discuss with your Team

Identify how your audience feels about the topic:

- What do you usually do when you see a patient who is colonized or infected with an MDRO? Do you worry you might catch something? How do you protect yourself and your residents? When might you don PPE?
- Do you have all the tools, e.g., hand hygiene supplies, PPE, appropriate disinfectants, etc., and information you need to do your job safely?
- As a team, how can we help each other take the right infection control actions when we see MDRO colonization or infection, wounds, and indwelling devices to keep germs from spreading?

4. Wrap-up and Reinforce

Reinforce key takeaways:

- Colonized residents display no signs or symptoms but contribute to the spread of MDRO in long-term care facilities.
- Use gloves and a gown when providing close contact care for residents with wounds, indwelling devices, and those who are colonized or infected with an MDRO.

Share related facility-specific information and key points:

- Connect the content with information health care workers can implement, e.g., use of EBP, hand hygiene, and cleaning and disinfection of the environment to prevent transmission of an MDRO in the facility.
- Use examples of how a resident was placed in EBP to prevent MDRO transmission.
- Residents on EBPs are not restricted to their room.
- Use images below and ask your staff to explain what is right about the pictures.
- Share resources for further learning as appropriate, including the link to [EBP FAQs](#).

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Can You Spot What's Right in These Pictures?

Image 1: Performing wound care



Image 2: Providing daily hygiene in shower



Image credit: Michigan HHS [Enhanced Barrier Precautions](#)

Image 3: Enhanced Barrier Precautions Sign



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