

Infection Prevention and Control

Best Practice Guideline	Bed Placement for Viral Respiratory Illness (VRI)		
Date	September 10, 2021		
Reviewed Date		Revised Date	September 11, 2024

A printed version of this guideline may not be the most recent version. The OFFICIAL version is located at www.ipac.vch.ca.

Patient Category	Patient Placement	Precaution Sign	Risk Mitigation
Category A (i) Lab-confirmed (known positive) high risk microorganisms (COVID, Influenza, RSV) (ii) Suspect with respiratory symptoms	 Single patient room Negative pressure room (for AGMP) If no single rooms, cohort patients only when lab-confirmed test results are <i>known</i> and only cohort patients with the same organisms (i.e. COVID with COVID; Influenza A with influenza A; influenza B with influenza B; RSV with RSV). Single patient room, priority placement for: 	Droplet & Contact Airborne, Droplet & Contact if AGMP	documented symptom assessment. Dedicated nursing not necessary. Airborne, Droplet & Contact precautions for AGMPs on confirmed or suspected influenza, RSV, COVID-19. Alternatively, Droplet & Contact Precautions sign with AGMP sign may be used. If AGMP occurring in a cohorted room of confirmed cases, the entire room is to be on Airborne Precautions.
Category B Asymptomatic patients: (i) Admitted and identified as a close contact by IPAC	 Planned/routine AGMP Severely or moderately immunocompromised patients If no single rooms available, cohort contacts from the same exposure event or with VRI cases that have recently recovered (same organism) and/or as per IPAC direction. In a circumstance of significant bed pressure, asymptomatic contacts from separate exposure events can be cohorted together (same organism) as per IPAC direction. Draw privacy curtains, maintain 2 meter separation, closely monitor for new symptoms and promptly test if symptoms develop. Bed placement on unit as per normal practice. 	Droplet & Contact	
Category C No symptoms or exposure risk		Routine Practices	Maintain 2 meters of separation and close privacy curtains around each bed in cohorted rooms. Ensure patients on Droplet and Contact Precautions don a medical mask, perform hand hygiene and are dressed in a clean gown/clothes when they need to leave their bed space (e.g., toileting, bathing, ambulating).

