

# Preventing cross transmission when an individual has known or suspected CDI

## Patient with *Clostridium difficile* infection (CDI)

### If a patient\* has a known or suspected CDI

#### Ensure that:

- patients with CDI are isolated in a single room with en suite facilities or an allocated commode, until they are at least 48 hours symptom free and bowel movements have returned to patient's normal
- unnecessary antimicrobial treatment are stopped where this is indicated by local antimicrobial policy and that the antibiotic regimens of the patient with CDI is reviewed on a daily basis
- personal protective equipment (PPE) (i.e. gloves and aprons) is donned prior to, and subsequently removed, following each period of care activity for a patient with CDI
- the patient with CDI's immediate environment is cleaned at least daily using neutral detergent followed by a disinfectant containing 1000 parts per million (ppm) available chlorine (av cl) (or a combined detergent/disinfectant (1000ppm av cl))
- hand washing is performed after body fluid exposure during patient care and after touching a patient's surroundings following a period of care activity (WHO Moments 3 and 5)
- ensure that patients have access to handwashing facilities and promote hand washing after patient uses toileting facilities and before eating
- care equipment e.g. blood pressure cuffs, thermometers and stethoscopes is dedicated to a single patient with CDI whenever possible

\*The use of the word 'Persons' can be used instead of 'Patient' when using this document in non-hospital settings

#### Practice points

The use of personal protective equipment (PPE) including gloves is important in all procedures where blood and body fluid risk exists.

The featured recommendation on hand hygiene does not detract from other times when hand hygiene is recommended and will be monitored against (namely the 5 Moments for Hand Hygiene).

The featured recommendations do not aim to cover emergency situations, which require clinical judgement for patient care actions.

For further information on the background to these recommendations and the literature reviews that informed these please visit <http://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk> as well as referring to your local teams and policies.

Also see NHS Education for Scotland <http://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk> and Healthcare Improvement Scotland <http://www.healthcareimprovementscotland.org/home.aspx> for additional information on education and patient safety improvement. Also refer to the Standard Infection Control Precautions Section of the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual <http://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/haic/ic/nationalinfectionpreventionandcontrolmanual.aspx>.