

**NASSAU HEALTH CARE CORPORATION  
EAST MEADOW, NEW YORK**

**SECTION: INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IC)  
POLICY/PROCEDURE**

<b><u>TITLE:</u></b> Prevention of Healthcare-Associated Infections During Asbestos Abatement, Construction and Remodeling
<b><u>APPROVED BY:</u></b> Quality and Policy Advisory Council (QPAC)
<b><u>Cross References: :</u></b> Preconstruction Risk Assessment Policy EOC Policy Isolation and Infection Prevention and Control Manual IC#023 Facility Guideline Institute for Hospital and Outpatient Setting, 2014. CDC. Guideline for Environmental Infection Control in Healthcare Facilities, 2003. Miller K. Planning, Design and Construction of Health Care Facilities. JCAHO, Chicago, 2006. Frederick, B. Infection Control During Hospital Renovation Projects. American Society for Healthcare Engineering of the American Hospital Association, 1998. Chicago. 131-137. AIA guidelines American Institute of Architects Academy of Architecture for Health, Facilities Guideline Institute: <i>2006 Guidelines for design and construction of hospitals and healthcare facilities</i> , Washington, DC, 2006, American Institute of Architects Press. Association for Professional in Infection Prevention and Control, 2014. APIC Infection Prevention Manual for Construction and Renovation, 2015

1.0. POLICY

- 1.1. It is the policy of Nassau Health Care Corporation to prevent the airborne spread of fungal spores that may cause disease in susceptible individuals during hospital construction, demolition, and remodeling activities.
- 1.2. Construction and renovation require substantial planning to minimize the risk of airborne infection both during projects and after their completion.
- 1.3. A multidisciplinary team coordinates Life Safety and Infection Prevention and Control Risk Assessments prior to start of work

2.0. PROCEDURE

- 2.1. All contractors will be cleared medically prior to start of work coordinated through Planning and Construction Coordination Team
- 2.2. In service on Prevention of Infection Associated with Construction should be provided Prior to start of work

- 2.3. Construction / Remodeling Coordination Team
  - 2.3.1. The team considers the following prior to initiating any construction or repair activity:
    - 2.3.1.1. Design, function and scope of work of the structure to be done.
    - 2.3.1.2. Assessment of environmental risks for airborne disease and opportunities for prevention.
    - 2.3.1.3. Measures to contain dust and moisture during construction.
- 2.4. The following disciplines are included:
  - 2.4.1. Engineering Department
  - 2.4.2. Director and Manager of the involved and adjacent patient care areas
  - 2.4.3. Safety and Security Department
  - 2.4.4. Infection Prevention and Control Department
  - 2.4.5. Planning Department / Architects
  - 2.4.6. Project Managers
- 2.5. Responsibility and Accountability
  - 2.5.1. Coordinate members' input in developing a comprehensive project management plan.
  - 2.5.2. Conduct a risk assessment (Pre-construction Infection Prevention and Control Risk Assessment) of the project to determine potential hazard patients, employees and construction workers.
  - 2.5.3. Prevent unnecessary exposure of patients, visitors and staff.
  - 2.5.4. Oversee all infection control aspects of construction activities
  - 2.5.5. Establish site-specific infection control protocols for specialized areas.
  - 2.5.6. Ensure compliance with construction standards and any applicable safety regulations.
  - 2.5.7. Establish a mechanism to correct problems quickly.
  - 2.5.8. Implement "interim life safety measures" as required.
- 2.6. Infection Prevention and Control Risk Assessment Procedure
  - 2.6.1. An Infection Prevention and Control Risk Assessment is completed prior to start of construction (see Appendix 1)
  - 2.6.2. Contractor will acknowledge ICRA and adhere to Infection Prevention and Control precautions.

**Appendix 1:**

**NASSAU HEALTH CARE CORPORATION  
 Infection Prevention and Control Risk Assessment Form  
 (ICRA)**

<b>Task/Project Description</b>

<b>Location:</b>				
	Facility	Building	Floor	Section/Area

**Step One:** Using the following table, *identify* the **Type** of Construction Project or Maintenance Activity (**Type A - D**)

TYPE A	Inspection and Non-Invasive Activities. Includes, but is not limited to: removal of ceiling tiles for visual inspection limited to 1 tile per 50 square feet painting (but not sanding) wall covering, electrical trim work, minor plumbing, and activities which do not generate dust or require cutting of walls or access to ceilings other than for visual inspection.
TYPE B	Small scale, short duration activities which create minimal dust Includes, but is not limited to: installation of telephone and computer cabling access to chase spaces cutting of walls or ceiling where dust migration can be controlled
TYPE C	Work that generates a moderate to high level of dust or requires demolition or removal of any fixed building components or assemblies Includes, but is not limited to: sanding of walls for painting or wall covering removal of floor-covering, ceiling tiles and casework new wall construction minor duct work or electrical work above ceilings. major cabling activities any activity which cannot be completed within single work-shift
TYPE D	Major demolition and construction projects Includes, but not limited to: activities which requires consecutive work shifts requires heavy demolition or removal of a complete cabling system new construction

**Step Two:** Using the following table, *identify* the **Patient Risk Groups** that will be affected. If more than one group will be affected, select the higher risk group:

Low risk	Medium risk	High risk	Highest Risk
Office areas	1. Endoscopy 2. Laboratories (specimen) 3. Medical/Surgical Units 4. Nuclear Medicine 5. Physical Therapy 6. Radiology 7. Respiratory Therapy 8. Treatment Rooms 9. Waiting Areas	1. Bronchoscopy 2. Dialysis 3. Cardiac Cath Unit 4. Emergency Room 5. Intensive Care Units 6. Outpatient surgery 7. Pharmacy 8. Post Anesthesia Care Unit 9. Pulmonary Care Unit	1. Any area caring for immunocompromised patients 2. Burn Center 3. Central Sterile Supply 4. Nursery/NICU 5. Operating rooms 6. Pharmacy <i>Admixture Area</i>

**Step Three:** *Match*

**The Patient Risk Group** (Low, Medium, High, Highest) with the planned **Construction Project Type (A, B, C, D)** on the following matrix, to find the **Class of Precautions (I, II, III, or IV)** or level of infection control activities required.

**Class I – IV Precautions are delineated on the following page.**

**IC Matrix - Class of Precautions: Construction Project by Patient Risk**  
 Construction Project / Maintenance Activity Type

Patient Risk Group	Type A	Type B	Type C	Type D
<b>LOW</b> Risk Group	<b>I</b>	<b>II</b>	<b>II</b>	<b>III / IV</b>
<b>MEDIUM</b> Risk Group	<b>I</b>	<b>II</b>	<b>III</b>	<b>IV</b>
<b>HIGH</b> Risk Group	<b>I</b>	<b>II</b>	<b>III / IV</b>	<b>IV</b>
<b>HIGHEST</b> Risk Group	<b>II</b>	<b>III / IV</b>	<b>III / IV</b>	<b>IV</b>

**Note: Infection Prevention and Control Department approval will be required when the Construction Activity and Risk Level indicate that Class III and Class IV control procedures are necessary.**

Description of Required Infection Control Precautions by Class  
During Construction Project Upon Completion of Project

	During Construction Project	Upon Completion of Project
<b>Class I</b>	Execute work by methods to minimize raising dust from the construction operators. Immediately replace a ceiling tile displaced for visual inspection	
<b>Class II</b>	Provide active means to prevent airborne dust from dispersing into atmosphere Water mist work surfaces to control dust while cutting Seal unused doors with duct tape Block off and seal air vents Place dust mat at entrance and exit of work area Remove or isolate HVAC system in areas where work is being preformed.	Wipe work surfaces with disinfectant Contain construction waste before transport in tightly covered containers Wet mops and/or vacuum with HEPA filtered vacuum before leaving work area. Remove isolation of HVAC system in area where work is being performed.
<b>Basement Level</b>	Remove or Isolate HVAC system in area where work is being done to prevent contamination of duct system Complete all critical barriers e.g.: sheetrock, plywood, plastic, to seal area from non-work area or implement control cube method (cart with plastic covering and sealed connection to work site with HEPA vacuum for vacuuming prior to exit) before construction begins. Maintain negative air pressure within work site utilizing HEPA equipped air filtration units. Contain construction waste before transport in tightly covered containers Cover transport receptacles or carts. Tape covering unless solid lid.	Do not remove barriers from work area until completed project is inspected by the owner's Safety Department and Infection Control Department and thoroughly cleaned by the owner Environmental Services Department. Remove barrier materials carefully to minimize spreading of dirt and debris associated with construction. Vacuum work area with HEPA filtered vacuums Wet mop area with disinfectant Remove isolation of HVAC system in areas where work is being performed.
<b>Class III</b>		
<b>2nd Fl.</b>	Isolate HVAC system in area where work is being done to prevent contamination of duct system Complete all critical barriers e.g.: sheetrock, plywood, plastic, to seal area from non-work area or implement control cube method (cart with plastic covering and sealed connection to work site with HEPA vacuum for vacuuming prior to exit) before construction begins. Maintain negative air pressure within work site utilizing HEPA equipped air filtration units. Seal holes, pipes, conduits, and punctures appropriately Construct anteroom and require all personnel to pass through this room so they can be vacuumed using a HEPA vacuum cleaner before leaving work site or they can wear clothing or paper coveralls that are removed each time they leave the work site. All personnel entering work site are required to wear shoe covers. Shoe covers must be changed. Do not remove barriers from work area until completed project is inspected by the owner's Safety Department and Infection Control Department and thoroughly cleaned by the owner's Environmental Services Department.	Remove barrier material carefully to minimize spreading of dirt and debris associated with construction. Contain construction waste before transport in tightly covered containers. Cover transport receptacles or carts. Tape covering unless solid lid. Vacuum work area with HEPA filtered vacuums. Wet mop area with disinfectant. Remove isolation of HVAC system in areas where work is being preformed.
<b>CLASS IV</b>		

**Step Four:** Implement the appropriate level of infection control precautions as indicated in the above table.

**Construction Requires the Following Class**

**CLASS:** \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluated by:

**Infection Prevention and Control Department**

Signature

Title

Date

**Engineering/Maintenance or Planning**

Signature

Title

Date

**Contractor's Notification Declaration**  
**Contractors Performing Work at Nassau Health Care Corporation Facilities**

Please complete the blanks below, sign and date

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Contracting Company Name)*

The person whose signature appears below, a proprietor, partner or officer authorized to sign for company listed above, has read the rules and regulations described above and agrees to abide by the content and intent of this procedure.

Print Name

Signature

Title

Date