# Infection Control Guidelines

**Prevent Influenza Transmission**

## 1. Post
- Signage instructing patients and persons who accompany them to inform health-care personnel if they have symptoms of respiratory infection.

## 2. Provide
- Tissues, trash cans, alcohol-based hand rubs, handwashing supplies where sinks are located and surgical masks for persons who are coughing.

## 3. Separate
- Coughing persons from non-coughing persons in common areas.

## 4. Educate
- Educate patients and persons to “cover their cough”, dispose of used tissues, wear a mask while in healthcare facility if coughing, and decontaminate hands after coughing or using tissues.

## 5. Wear
- Gloves when touching respiratory secretions and surgical masks when within 3 feet of a coughing person.

## 6. Decontaminate Hands
- Use soap and water if visibly contaminated. Use alcohol-based hand gel if no visible contamination is present.

## 7. Decontaminate Environment
- Wipe down frequently touched areas with routine environmental cleaner more often when coughing persons have been in the area.

## 8. Exclude
- Health-care personnel with symptoms of respiratory infection from work for the duration of illness.

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**Remember:** protect yourself. protect your patients. protect your co-workers.

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