

Infection Control for Respiratory Viruses

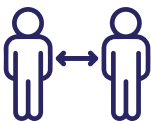
Use the following infection control measures to prevent and slow the spread of respiratory infections in your facility.



Use of well-fitting masks or respirators, that cover a person's mouth and nose, can prevent the spread of germs when people are breathing, talking, sneezing, or coughing.



Encourage everyone in your facility to get recommended vaccinations. Vaccination is a safe and effective strategy for reducing disease spread and staff absenteeism.



Practice physical distancing, particularly in shared spaces such as waiting rooms, and implement screening and triage procedures. Use signs as visual reminders for patients, implement rapid screening, and separate symptomatic patients as soon as possible.



Practice respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette and encourage others to do the same. Provide masks, tissues, and no-touch receptacles for tissue disposal at facility entrances, triage areas, and waiting rooms.



Clean your hands regularly with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer or soap and water. Share key messages and reminders within in your facility by using CDC's [Clean Hands Count](#) resources.



Clean and disinfect regularly. Lobby areas, cafeterias, and waiting rooms are all high-traffic spaces where germs can spread. It's also important to disinfect reusable devices and not reuse disposable items.



Check that the air handling in your facility is functioning as it should. Make sure air vents aren't blocked, and consult with facilities management to ensure the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, or HVAC, system is working efficiently for proper ventilation.

For more information on infection control recommendations for healthcare settings, visit

<https://bit.ly/3O1UXhM>