

Isolation Room

Preparation of the isolation room

- Ensure additional precautions by indicating with appropriate signage on the door (for example, biohazard logo).
- Place a log book at the entrance of the isolation room. All health care workers or visitors entering the isolation area must sign the log book.
- Remove all non-essential furniture. The remaining furniture should be easy to clean and should not conceal or retain dirt or moisture, either within or around it.
- Collect linen as needed.
- Stock the hand basin with suitable supplies for hand washing.
- Place appropriate waste bags in the room on a foot-operated bin.
- Place a puncture-proof container for sharps in the room.
- Keep the patient's personal belongings to a minimum. Keep water pitcher and cup, tissue wipes, and all items necessary for attending to personal hygiene within the patient's reach.
- The patient should be allocated his/her own non-critical items of patient care equipment, e.g. stethoscope, thermometer and sphygmomanometers. Any item of patient care equipment that is required for other patients should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected prior to use.
- Set up a cart outside the door to hold personal protective equipment. A checklist may be useful to ensure all equipment is available (see Annex 4).
- Place appropriate container with a lid outside the door for equipment that requires disinfection and sterilization. Once equipment has been appropriately cleaned it can be sent to the sterilizing service department.
- Keep adequate equipment required for cleaning and disinfection inside the patients' room.