

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) – AT A GLANCE

DESCRIPTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Respiratory Syncytial virus (RSV) – an enveloped RNA virus that causes coughs and colds during the winter period.• Common cause of bronchiolitis in children aged under 2 years presenting to hospital• Can affect elderly patients and immunocompromised patients of all ages• Transmitted via large droplets and secretions• Incubation period is 3 to 5 days• Vaccines are now available for the elderly and for pregnant women (to prevent RSV in neonates and infants)			
MANAGEMENT	Patient Category	Patient placement	IPC precautions	
	Children (Ages 0 – 16)	Isolate in a single room/cubicle or cohort similar RSV cases in a bay	Droplet precautions- <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Routine care- Surgical mask (FRSM)• AGP’s-FFP3 Respiratory and cough etiquette for patients	
	Adults in general areas	Preferable to isolate in a single room if symptomatic. Cohort similar RSV cases in a bay.	Droplet precautions- <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Routine care- Surgical mask (FRSM)• AGP’s-FFP3 Respiratory and cough etiquette for patients	
	Adults in immunocompromised areas	Isolate in a single room or cohort similar RSV cases in a bay	Droplet precautions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Routine care- Surgical mask (FRSM)• AGP’s-FFP3 Respiratory and cough etiquette for patients	
CLEANING	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Virus can survive on surfaces for up to 7 hours.• Wipe down frequently touched areas with GREEN Clinell wipes at least twice a day• Clean all equipment after each use• Terminal clean required (including curtain change) for patients in bed space/single room for 12 hours or more, including cleaning equipment and surfaces with GREEN Clinell wipes			
WHEN TO STOP ISOLATION/ COHORTING	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cohorting or isolation should continue until the patient is asymptomatic or has been discharged• Patients can be discharged home while symptomatic provided they are medically fit• Receiving hospitals must be informed, using an Inter-hospital transfer form found on the intranet, of confirmed or suspected RSV prior to transfer			