



**Patient placement:** Patient placement should be informed by a risk assessment followed by prioritisation of the seriousness of the infection and any competing patient needs. For further information refer to the [Patient placement guide](#) and local infection prevention and control service.

**Personal protective equipment (PPE) use:**

- When used as part of **standard precautions**, PPE protects against potential exposure to blood and body substances.
- When used as part of **transmission-based precautions**, PPE is used as a barrier against specific means of transmission of infectious agents.
- Protective eyewear is part of standard precautions, and serves to protect the healthcare worker from body fluid exposure to the eyes from droplets generated by patient when coughing and sneezing.

^ Droplets can contaminate horizontal surfaces close to the source patient, and the hands of healthcare workers can become contaminated through contact with those surfaces.

\***Visitors** should be given instruction about correct procedures when transmission-based precautions are applied and given appropriate resources to support them in meeting these requirements.

# For vaccine-preventable diseases, where possible, only staff and visitors who have confirmed immunity (evidenced by serological immunity or vaccination history) to the specific infectious agent should enter the room. See Section 4.2.1 of the [Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare](#) for further information.

**Table adapted from:** Section 6.3 Use of standard and transmission-based precautions Table A2.4. Use of standard and transmission-based precautions, [Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare](#)