Standard precautions

Standard precautions must always be used when caring for all patients, regardless of their infection status



Perform hand hygiene



Clean and reprocess reusable patient equipment



Use personal protective equipment (PPE)*



Perform routine environmental cleaning



Use respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette



Handle and store waste safely



Use aseptic technique



Handle and store linen safely



Use and dispose of sharps safely

*When used as part of **standard precautions**, PPE protects against probable exposure to blood and body substances. When used as part of **transmission-based precautions**, PPE services as a barrier to specific means of transmission of infectious agents.

 $\label{eq:ppe} \mbox{PPE image reproduced with permission of the NSW Clinical Excellence Commission}.$



