

El Paso - Ambulatory Clinic Policy and Procedure

Title: INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL PLAN	Policy Number: EP 7.12
Regulation OSHA, TDSHS, CDC, APIC, Joint Reference: Commission	Effective Date: 3/2014

Policy Statement:

It is the policy of Texas Tech University Health Science Center at El Paso (TTUHSC at El Paso) to establish and implement an Infection Prevention and Control Plan in the Ambulatory Clinics.

Scope and Distribution:

This policy applies to all TTUHSC at El Paso Ambulatory clinics.

Procedure:

1. The GOALS of the Infection Prevention and Control Plan are to:
 - a. Establish and operate a practical system for proactively preventing, identifying, reporting, and evaluating infections in the clinic, patients and personnel.
 - b. Initiate proper measures to limit unprotected exposure to pathogens throughout the organization or further spread from identified sources of contagion.
 - c. Enhance hand hygiene.
 - d. Review patient care outcomes as related to Infection Prevention and Control.
 - e. Minimize the risk of transmitting infections associated with procedures and with the use of, medical equipment, and medical services.
 - f. Communicate to the medical staff and all TTUHSC ambulatory clinic employees regarding potential infection prevention and control problems and suggest improvements.
 - g. Serve as a source for education. (CDC, APIC)

2. The STRATEGIES of Infection Prevention and Control include the following:
 - a. Designation of an individual (individuals) with appropriate infection control and prevention knowledge to manage the program.
 - b. Incorporate appropriate regulatory and accreditation requirements (National Patient Safety Goals, OSHA, Texas Department of State organizational Health Services, Joint Commission, Medicare and Medicaid) into the organizational processes.
 - c. Referencing and resourcing guidelines from relevant organizations regarding current ambulatory care infection control practice (CDC, APIC).
 - d. Participating in effective risk management and performance improvement activities designed to improve patient care, encouraging adherence to sound principals and organizational policy.
 - e. Provide Infection Prevention and Control/Employee health education regarding regulations, guidelines, (including hand hygiene), risk management concerns and performance improvement initiatives.
 - f. Conduct surveillance/monitoring/reporting of infection control practices in clinical areas.
 - g. Annual TB testing program for appropriate clinic staff.
 - h. Immunization Program.
 - i. Exposure Management Program.

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3. STRATEGY EVALUATION includes the following activities:
 - a. Triennial and P.R.N updates and reassessment of Infection Control policies and procedures.
 - b. Annual review of Infection Control Plan to assess risk and establish program priorities.
 - c. Periodic data analysis including tracking and trending of infectious diseases and potential for acquisition and transmission within the organization and community through the Infection Control/Clinic Operations Committees.
 - d. Periodic Notifiable reporting audits.
 - e. Surveillance rounds through all Clinic sites every six months and P.R.N.
4. Infection Control Committee:
 - a. The Infection Control Committee is part of the Clinic Operations Committee. The Infection Control Committee shall provide interdisciplinary risk assessment, support, guidance and oversight for relevant activities in the clinics including limiting unprotected exposure to pathogens throughout the organization, enhancing hand hygiene, and minimizing the risk of transmitting infections associated with procedures and the use of medical equipment, and medical devices.

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Signatory approval on file by: Michael J. Romano, MD Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs Clinic Operations Committee, Chair Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso	