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IPAC Considerations During Evacuations

Purpose

Interior Health Authority (IHA) Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) developed this document for use by Infection Control Professionals (ICPs). The checklist pertains to the establishment of the overall Evacuation Centre, should the need arise to use a non-healthcare facility (i.e. community centre, school, etc.)

Overview

Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) is represented at each level of the Emergency Operations Command (EOC) Structure. IPAC requirements are integral to establishing and commissioning temporary health service delivery areas and structures used during the disaster period such as an evacuation centre.

Table 1: **IPAC-Related Items for Non-Healthcare Sites**

General List of Supplies for Evacuation					
Item/Action			Yes	No	
1.0	IPAC Related Supplies				
1.1	PPE	Masks, N95 respirators, gowns, gloves, and eye protection			
1.2	Carts	Storage or cart to contain the clean PPE			
1.3	Hand Hygiene	Alcohol based hand rub (ABHR), hand soap and lotion, paper towels			
1.4	Signage for residents on Additional Precautions				
1.5	Laundry and garbage bins, including bags				
1.6	Ensure Environmental Services has essential cleaning and disinfecting supplies.				
1.7	Supplies to manage human waste – e.g. Verna Care/Blue Ware, commodes				
It is recommended that signs for the following areas be prepared and printed for use during setup:					
1.8	Clean supplies				
1.9	Soiled supply holding area				
1.10	Soiled linen holding area				
1.11	Clean linen holding area				
1.12	General waste holding area				
1.13	Biohazard/sharps waste holding area				

Table 2: **Checklist for Non-Healthcare Facilities**

Establishing the Evacuation Centre			
Item/Action		Yes	No
1.0	General Considerations		
1.1	Consultation with Infection Prevention and Control prior to opening		
1.2	General workflow: clean to dirty		
1.3	Waste disposal process established		
1.4	General waste holding area is away from Evacuation Centre.		
1.5	Defined area for Environmental Services and supplies		
1.6	Defined area for charting		
1.7	Defined area for pharmacy medications and supplies		
1.8	Plan for management of reusable soiled equipment and instruments		
1.9	Biohazardous waste and lockable sharps containers are available		
1.10	Eyewash station is available		
1.11	Confidential paper shredding container is available		
1.12	Temperature monitoring and documentation for areas with sterile supplies: 20-24 degrees C		
1.13	Relative humidity monitoring and documentation for areas with sterile supplies: 30-60 %		
2.0	Water Intrusion Management Resources		
2.1	Squeegee, bailing bucket, mops, wet vacuum available		
3.0	Pre-Occupancy Requirements		
3.1	Designate separate entrance and exit routes		
3.2	Establish one-way traffic flow		
3.3	Potable water access		
3.4	Clear separation of clean and soiled supplies and linens		
3.5	Recycling bins are available		
3.6	Prepare and post signage (see Resources)		
4.0	Washroom/Portable Toilet		
4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify appropriate ratio for number of anticipated evacuees and staff. The ratio is situation- specific, and is determined in consultation with Environmental Public Health considering anticipated displaced population need, duration of event, location/services nearby, etc. 		
4.2	Dedicated staff toilet and hand hygiene sink		
4.3	Dedicated public/patient toilet and hand hygiene sink		
4.4	Dedicated isolation patient toilet and hand hygiene sink		

Establishing the Evacuation Centre		
Item/Action	Yes	No
5.0	Hand Hygiene Accessibility	
5.1	Consult IPAC to optimize locations for alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR)	
5.2	Priority for Placement of ABHR:	
	Priority 1 – point of care	
	Priority 2 – clean and sterile supplies	
	Priority 3 – PPE donning and doffing	
	Priority 4 – at entrance and exit of site	
5.3	ABHR available where staff take breaks.	
5.4	Portable/permanent hand hygiene sink, soap dispenser, and disposable single use towels are available at washroom area.	
5.5	Portable/permanent hand hygiene soap, soap dispenser, and disposable single use towels are available in the laundry area.	
6.0	Environmental Cleaning	
6.1	Schedule for routine environmental cleaning & disinfection	
6.2	Environmental Services Standard Operating procedures are available	
6.3	IH approved disinfectant wipes available	
6.4	Cart with cleaning supplies and disinfectants	
6.5	Supplies: Hand pail, clean cloths, wet mop, bucket and wringer, cleaning and disinfecting product(s), spill pack, dustpan, brush, wet floor signs, garbage bags, linen bags and absorbent material (for spills)	
6.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blood and Body Fluid spill kit including cleaning cart, hand pail, cleaning cloths, wet mop, bucket and wringer, cleaning and disinfecting product(s), spill pack, dustpan, brush, wet floor signs, garbage bags, linen bags (for soiled linen), medical mask and gloves, absorbent material, and safety goggles/glasses. Additional PPE may be required, as appropriate. 	

Resources

Hand Hygiene:

- [How to use ABHR](#)
- [How to Hand Wash](#)
- [Four Moments of Hand Hygiene](#)

Donning/doffing:

- [Putting on Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\)](#)
- [Taking off Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\)](#)

Additional Precaution Signs:

- [Contact](#)
- [Contact Plus](#)
- [Droplet](#)
- [Droplet Contact](#)

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