

IPAC Diseases and Conditions Table: Recommendations for Management of Patients, Residents & Clients

Suspected/Known Disease or Microorganism		
Varicella Zoster Virus: Chickenpox – Exposed Susceptible Contact		
Clinical Presentation: Asymptomatic		
Infectious Substances If lesions develop: lesion drainage, respiratory secretions.		How it is Transmitted Direct Contact, Indirect Contact, Airborne
Precautions Needed*		
Acute Care	<b>Airborne Precautions</b> 8 days after first contact and until 21 days after last contact with case (extend to 28 days if given <a href="#">VZIG</a> )	<b>Airborne &amp; Contact Precautions</b> If lesions develop see <a href="#">Chickenpox known case</a>
Residential Care	<b>Airborne Precautions</b> 8 days after first contact and until 21 days after last contact with case (extend to 28 days if given <a href="#">VZIG</a> )	<b>Airborne &amp; Contact Precautions</b> If lesions develop see <a href="#">Chickenpox known case</a>
Home & Community	<b>Airborne Precautions</b> 8 days after first contact and until 21 days after last contact with case (extend to 28 days if given <a href="#">VZIG</a> )	<b>Airborne &amp; Contact Precautions</b> If lesions develop see <a href="#">Chickenpox known case</a>
Duration of Precautions From 8 days after first contact until 21 days after last contact with rash (or 28 days if given <a href="#">VZIG</a> )		
Incubation Period 10-21 days (28 days if given VZIG)	Period of Communicability 2 days before rash starts and until all skin lesions have dried and crusted	
Comments *Precautions required are in addition to <a href="#">Routine Practices</a> . <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Newborn: If mother develops chickenpox &lt;5 days before giving birth or 48 hours after, place newborn on <a href="#">Airborne Precautions</a> and assess for Varicella Zoster Immune Globulin <a href="#">VZIG</a>. If lesions develop use <a href="#">Airborne &amp; Contact Precautions</a>.</li><li>• If <a href="#">VZIG</a> indicated, administer within 96 hours (can be administered up to 10 day post exposure).</li><li>• An exposed susceptible person will develop chickenpox (varicella), not shingles (herpes zoster).</li><li>• Exposure to either chickenpox or shingles could result in a chickenpox infection in susceptible contacts.</li><li>• Susceptible contact refers to exposed person who has no evidence of varicella zoster virus immunity.</li></ul> Notify local Infection Preventionist if Chickenpox exposure occurred in a healthcare setting and refer to the <a href="#">Chickenpox (Varicella-Zoster) and Shingles (Herpes Zoster)</a> Guideline.		