# Infection control in ambulatory care

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## What we're talking about

- What kinds of outpatient health care settings
- What <u>is</u> infection control and prevention in the ambulatory setting (highlighting differences between the acute hospital setting and ambulatory care)?
- Trends in the future



 "Infection control is the discipline concerned with preventing nosocomial or healthcare-associated infection, a practical (rather than academic) subdiscipline of epidemiology. It is an essential, though often under-recognized and under-supported, part of the infrastructure of health care. Infection control and hospital epidemiology are akin to public health practice, practiced within the confines of a particular health-care delivery system rather than directed at society as a whole."

--https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Infection\_control



## Atrius Health



- 675,000 adult and pediatric patients
- 2.2 million visits a year
- 42 practice locations
- 750 physicians
- 6,800 employees

### Components of infection control

- Prevention
- Preparedness
- Surveillance
- Management

- For all of these
  - Policies, procedures, consultation in individual cases, coordinating larger response when necessary



#### Prevention

- Cleaning, disinfection, sterilization
- Hand hygiene
- TB control program
- Transmission-based precautions
- Vaccines for patients
- Immunity/vaccines for staff
- Antibiotic stewardship
- Blood borne pathogens program





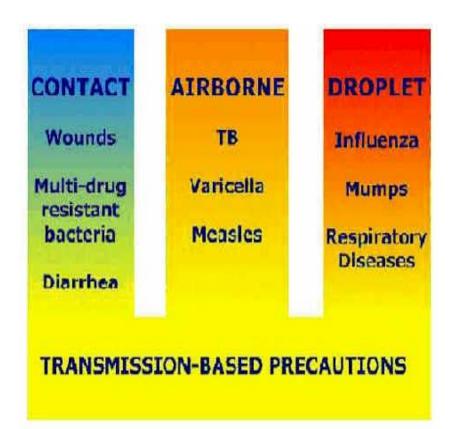












#### STANDARD PRECAUTIONS

Blood, all body fluids, secretions, excretions, nonintact skin, mucous membranes

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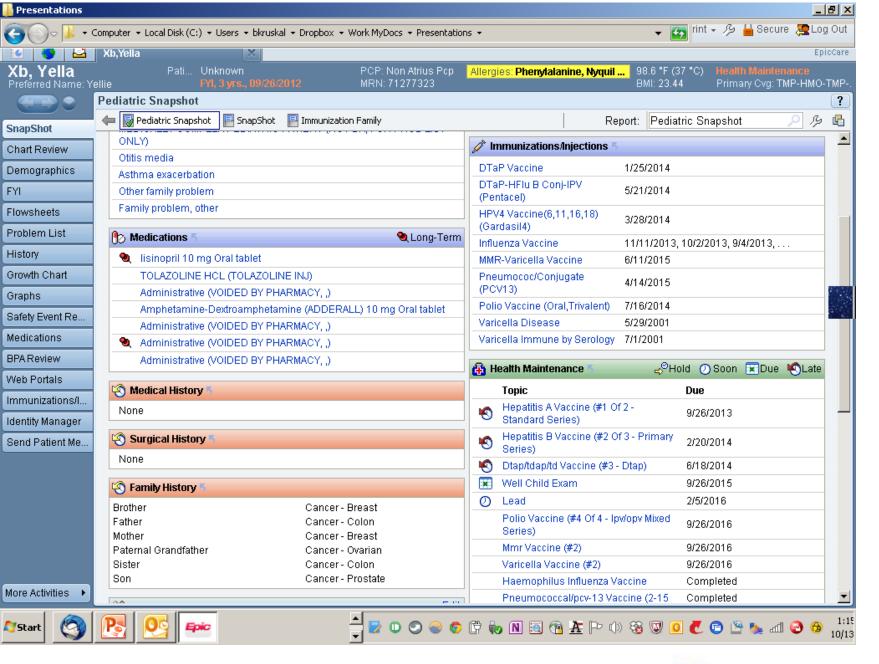




Atrius Health













#### **Standard Precautions**

Are every day practices that prevent potential exposure to hazardous germs- urine, feces, blood, saliva, nasal discharge, eye discharge, and injury or tissue discharges. Cleaned up immediately, as follows:

- Remove objects of blood or blood-containing body fluids and injury or tissue discharges. Then clean and disinfect the area.
- Wear gloves in these situations. Avoid exposing open skin sores of mucous membranes to blood or blood-containing body fluids or to injury and tissue discharges.
- Clean floor/objects, and or mop/rinse them with sanitizing solution. Wring the mops as dry as possible and hang to dry.
- Place blood-contaminated material and diapers in a plastic bag secured with a knot.
- Wash your hands properly even if you wore gloves. Wash your hands after drying tears or wiping discharge from the nose or mouth.





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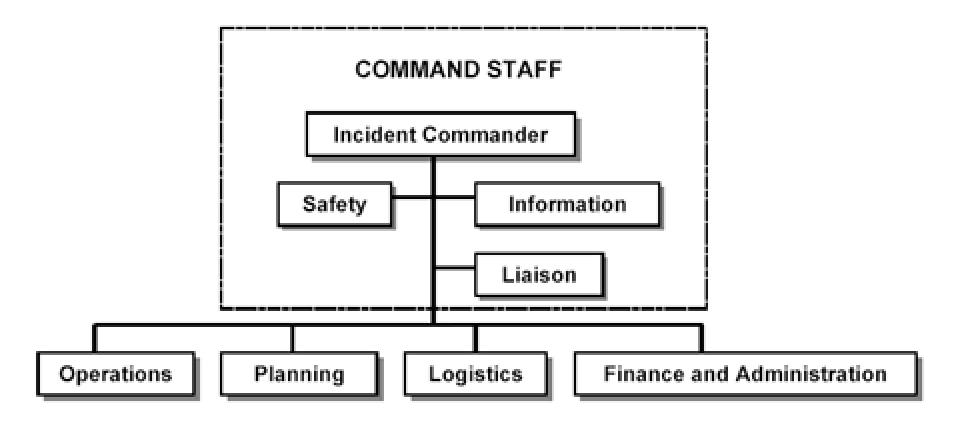


#### Preparedness

- All hazards disaster preparedness
  - Infectious outbreak/pandemic plan
- Everyday possible infectious exposure preparedness



#### Incident command system





### Pandemic flu plan

- Supply stockpile established
- Plans to increase care
  - Acuity
  - Volume
  - Triggers for when this may be necessary
  - Managing staff with illness or ill family members
- Vaccine/medication distribution plan



# Everyday infectious exposure preparedness

- Transmission-based precautions
- Recognition
  - Fever and rash (Measles, varicella, meningococcemia)
  - Severe, prolonged or paroxysmal cough (TB, pertussis)
  - Ad hoc: e.g. international travel (Ebola, MERS)
- Moving the patient, PPE use, HEPA filter

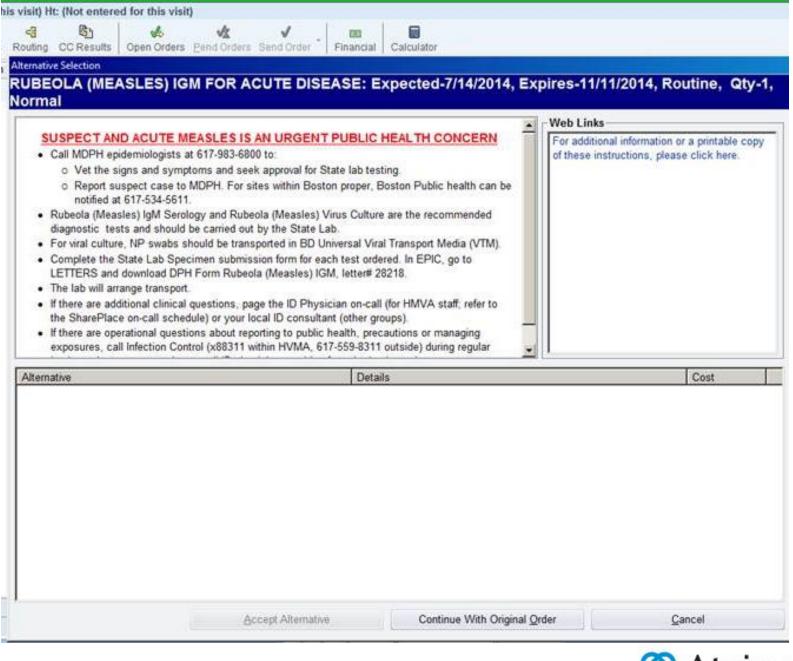


## Components of infection control

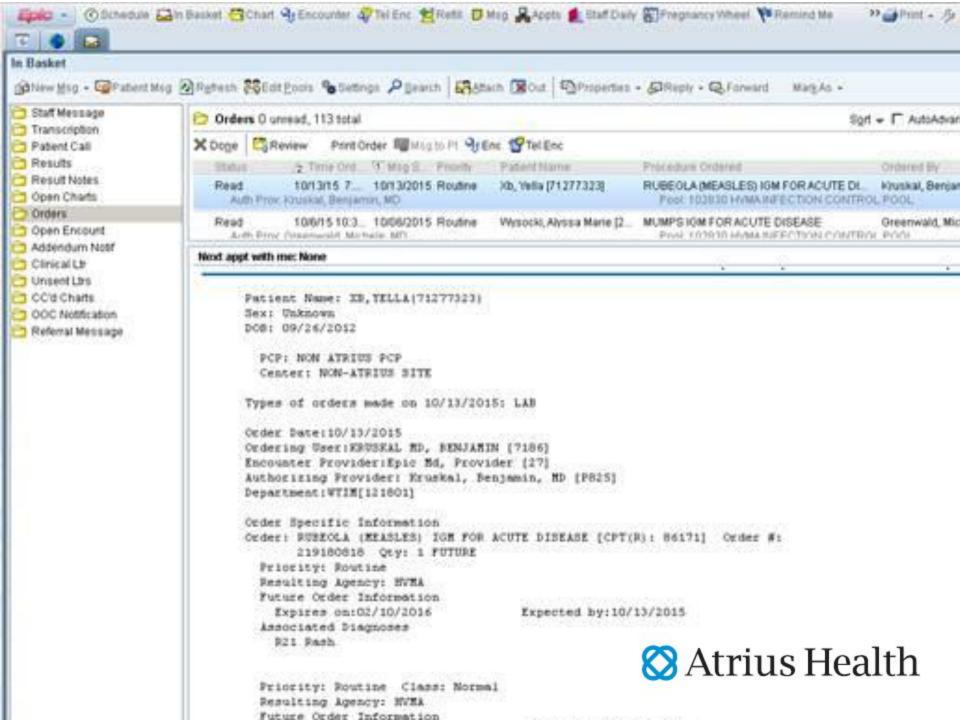
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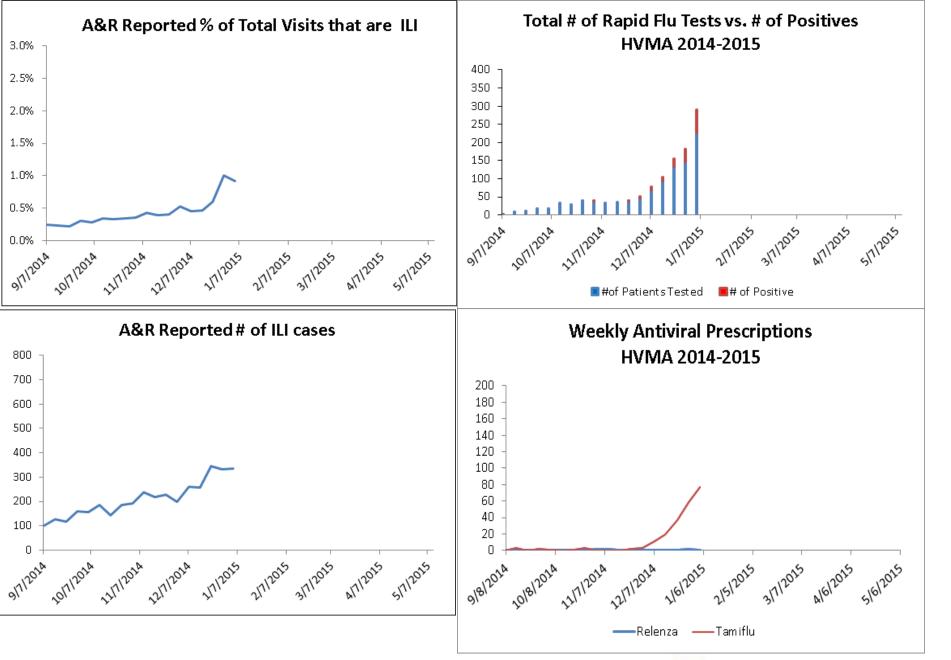




#### Surveillance

- Electronic health record tools: alerts
- Regulatory compliance
  - Notifiable disease reporting
    - ESP system: collaboration between DPH, HPHC/HMS DPM, and Atrius: automated reporting of commonest diseases
  - OSHA blood/body fluid report
- Useful for QI, targeting education
  - STI (including. Expedited Partner Therapy)
  - enteric (including C. diff)
  - Flu
  - -TB





Sample flu dashboard from week ending 1/4/2015



## Weekly report of possible incident active TB cases

Any prescriptions for isoniazid+ rifampin OR ethambutol ORpyrazinamide in patients who have not had that drug within the past year

MRN	Ordering date	Location	Medication	
XXXXXXXXX	10/1/15	Peabody	Ethambutol	
XXXXXXXXX	10/1/15	Peabody	Isoniazid	
XXXXXXXXX	10/1/15	Peabody	Rifampin	



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#### Management

- Communicable disease exposures
  - Especially MMRV, meningococcal disease, pertussis, TB
- Blood/body fluid exposures
- Breach of appropriate cleaning/disinfection/sterilization, medication handling, etc
- Contagious outbreak/potential outbreak



## Organizational questions

- Where does IC fit in org chart?
  - Infectious disease
  - Quality and safety
  - Employee health
- Appropriate staffing ratios?
  - Inpatient
    - Infection control practitioner 1 FTE/100-200 occupied beds
    - Physician: 1 FTE/300 beds
  - Background: nurse vs med tech vs ???
  - Outpatient ratios????

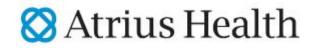


#### **Trends**

- Increased metric reporting including HAI
  - Currently, mostly inpatient, e.g. NNIS—CLABSI, CAUTI,
     VAP
  - Likely some versions coming to ambulatory
  - Burdensome
  - Leverage existing databases?
- Consolidation
- More care delivered in ambulatory settings
  - Challenges in tracking nosocomial infections from source to presentation



 More care delivered in ambulatory settings



- Challenges in tracking nosocomial infections from source to presentation

The Official Journal of The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America

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leverage existing databases (and correlate across them)

INFECTION CONTROL AND HOSPITAL EPIDEMIOLOGY\*

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Detection of Postoperative Surgical-Site Infections: Comparison of Health Plan-Based Surveillance With Hospital-Based Programs
Kesseth E. Sares, MD, MPH; Denorm S. Yoroz, MD, MPH; Dano C. Hoorex, MD, Jone L. Tolly, MD; Teresa C. Horox, MPH; Robert P. Garses, MD; Steven L. Solomov, MD; Richard Platt, MD, MSc.



**Questions?** 

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