

Information Sheet 4 - Risk Categorisation



ACT
Government

**Canberra Health
Services**

Canberra Health Services staff are categorised according to their risk of acquisition and/or transmission of specified vaccine preventable diseases. This risk is divided into Category A and Category B. All Position Descriptions when advertised must include the designated risk category of the position.

Category A	Documentation of immunization and/or immune status is mandatory.
<p>Contact with patients and/or blood, body substances or infectious materials, including non-clinical staff working in ward or outpatient areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct contact with, or potential exposure to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - patients/clients - deceased persons or body parts - blood, body substances, infectious material - surfaces or equipment that might contain blood, body substances or infectious material, for example soiled linen, surgical equipment, syringes. • Other contact that would allow the acquisition or transmission of diseases that are spread by respiratory means, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - frequent or prolonged face-to-face contact with patients or clients (e.g., interviewing or counselling individual clients or small groups, performing reception duties in an emergency/outpatient's department) - work in clinical areas such as wards, the emergency department, outpatient clinics (e.g., ward clerks and patient transport officers) - frequent attendance in clinical areas (e.g., food services staff who deliver meals). <p>Examples include but are not limited to: dentists, doctors, contracted domestic and environmental staff, nurses, mortuary technicians, laboratory scientists, allied health practitioners, tertiary students, personal care assistants, clerical personnel on wards, maintenance engineers who service equipment, sterilising service personnel, personnel responsible for the decontamination and disposal of contaminated materials, laundry personnel, waste facility personnel (e.g. Sterilising Services).</p>
Category B	Documentation of immunisation and/or immune status is not required - Category B staff have no greater risk of exposure than the general community
<p>NO contact with patients or blood, body substances or infectious materials.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not have contact with, or potential exposure to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - patients/clients - deceased persons or body parts - blood, body substances, infectious material - surfaces or equipment that might contain blood, body substances or infectious material, for example soiled linen, surgical equipment, syringes. • Do not have other contact that would allow the acquisition or transmission of diseases that are spread by respiratory means. • Normal work location is not in a clinical area e.g., administrative positions not in a ward, food services personnel in kitchens. • Only attend clinical areas infrequently and for short periods of time e.g., maintenance contractor undertaking work in clinical area. • Examples include but are not limited to administration and clerical personnel in non-clinical work settings, some secondary students, stores personnel, kitchen personnel.

Acknowledgement of Country



Canberra Health Services acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, the Ngunnawal people. We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and contribution to the life of this city and region.

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