


<b>Name of Policy:</b>	<b><u>Infection Control Guidelines for Pregnant Health Care Workers</u></b>	 <p><b>Effective Date:</b> 07/01/2017 Initial Effective 4 /1/1999</p>
<b>Policy Number:</b>	3364-109-EH-604	
<b>Department:</b>	Infection Prevention and Control Hospital Administration Medical Staff	
<b>Approving Officer:</b>	Chair, Infection Control Committee Chief of Staff Chief Clinical and Operating Officer	
<b>Responsible Agent:</b>	Infection Preventionist	
<b>Scope:</b>	The University of Toledo Medical Center and its Medical Staff	
<input type="checkbox"/> New policy proposal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor/technical revision of existing policy		
<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision of existing policy <input type="checkbox"/> Reaffirmation of existing policy		

**(A) Policy Statement**

Information will be made available to pregnant employees regarding necessary work restrictions when in contact with potentially infectious agents.

**(B) Purpose of Policy**

The purpose of this policy is to educate the health care worker (HCW) on the risks of acquiring a communicable disease during pregnancy and to help her prevent exposure whenever possible. Any specific questions should be directed to her personal obstetrician. Whether work or community related, the obstetrician should be notified of exposure to a communicable disease.

**(C) Procedure**

Certain diseases are detrimental to the development of an unborn child. Therefore, pregnant women must be protected from the transmission of these diseases. The approach for the prevention of disease transmission is broad. This is necessary to protect the employee who may not know she is pregnant. Additionally, a broad approach also protects the pregnant employee who cares for patients who may be later diagnosed with a communicable disease.

**Table.** Pertinent facts to guide occupational exposures to infectious agents

Disease	Modes of Transmission	Prevention	Comments
Cytomegalovirus (CMV)	Urine, blood, vaginal secretions, semen and saliva	Standard Precautions	No additional precautions for pregnant HCW.
Hepatitis B	Blood and body fluids	Standard Precautions Vaccine available HBIG to infant if exposure of non-immune personnel	Hepatitis B vaccine strongly recommended for all HCWs including pregnant HCWs.
Hepatitis C	Blood and body fluids	Standard Precautions	No additional precautions for pregnant HCW.
Herpes Simplex	Contact with lesion	Standard precautions or contact precautions depending upon severity of illness	No additional precautions for pregnant HCW.

Disease	Modes of Transmission	Prevention	Comments
HIV	Blood and body fluids	Standard precautions	Report any blood/body fluid exposure immediately according to hospital policy.
Influenza	Respiratory secretions	Droplet precautions Yearly vaccine	Vaccination (safe during pregnancy)
Parvovirus B19 (Fifth's Disease)	Respiratory secretions (and rarely blood)	Droplet precautions	Reassign pregnant women
Pulmonary or Laryngeal Tuberculosis	Airborne droplet Nuclei	Airborne precautions	Report any unprotected exposure.
Rubella	Respiratory secretions	Droplet precautions Vaccine Contact precautions for congenital rubella	The non-immune HCW, pregnant or not, should not care for rubella patients until vaccination is complete. The MMR vaccine and its component vaccines should not be given to women known to be pregnant. Reassign to avoid risk of exposure.
Rubeola (Measles)	Respiratory secretions	Airborne precautions Vaccine	The non-immune HCW, pregnant or not, should not care for rubeola patients until vaccination is complete. The MMR vaccine and its component vaccines should not be given to women known to be pregnant. Reassign to avoid risk of exposure.
Varicella (Chickenpox)	Respiratory secretions and lesion contact	Airborne and contact precautions	The non-immune HCW, pregnant or not, should not care for varicella patients. Reassign to avoid risk of exposure. Non-immune women should be evaluated for postexposure prophylaxis.
Varicella Zoster, Disseminated or localized in Immuno-compromised patient	Respiratory secretions and lesion contact	Airborne and contact precautions	The non-immune HCW, pregnant or not, should not care for varicella zoster patients. Reassign to avoid risk of exposure. Non-immune women should be evaluated for postexposure prophylaxis.
Varicella Zoster (Shingles), localized	Contact with lesions	Standard precautions	The non-immune HCW, pregnant or not, should not care for varicella patients. Reassign to avoid risk of exposure. Non-immune women should be evaluated for postexposure prophylaxis.
Pertussis	Respiratory	Droplet Precautions Vaccination	Pregnant HCW should receive a dose of Tdap during each pregnancy irrespective of prior history of receiving Tdap.

Additional information, please see the following; HM-08-028 Teratogens Safe Work Practices

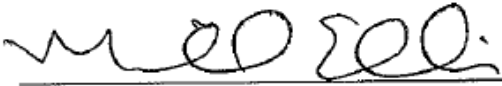
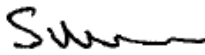
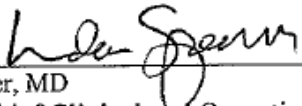
References:

APIC Text of Infection Control and Epidemiology; June 2014, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Volume 3,104:3-12

CDC guidelines for health care personnel [http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/gl\\_hcpersonnel.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/gl_hcpersonnel.html)

<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/repro/healthcaresafetyresources.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/pdf/InfectControl98.pdf><https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/repro/infectious.html>

<p><b>Approved by:</b></p> <p>        _____        Michael Ellis, MD        Chair, Infection Control Committee</p> <p>        _____        Thomas Schwann, MD        Chief of Staff</p> <p>        _____        Linda Speer, MD        Interim Chief Clinical and Operating and        Officer</p> <p><i>Review/Revision Completed By:        Infection Control Committee</i></p>	<p><b>Review/Revision Date:</b></p> <p>2/17/86        5/18/87        11/1/88        3/5/90        8/6/90        9/9/91        11/10/93        6/2/97        3/1/99        12/17/01        12/20/04        3/24/2008        2/28/2011        07/01/2014        07/25/2014        6/30/2017</p> <p><b>Next Review Date:</b> 06/2020</p>
<p><b>Policies Superseded by This Policy:</b></p>	

30 June 17  
 Date

7/13/17  
 Date

7-5-17  
 Date