

Point-of-care Risk Assessment

BEFORE each patient/resident/client interaction, the health care worker (HCW) completes a 'Point of Care Risk Assessment' (PCRA) to determine the risk of exposure and appropriate Routine Practices and Additional Precautions required for safe care by asking the following questions:

- What are the patient's symptoms?
- What is the degree of contact?
- What is the degree of contamination?
- What is the patient's level of understanding and cooperation?
- What is the degree of difficulty of the procedure being performed and the experience level of the care provider?
- What is my risk of exposure to blood, body fluids, excretions, secretions, non-intact skin and mucous membranes?

The PCRA allows the HCW to determine what personal protective equipment (PPE) to select and wear for that interaction.

