

# Airborne Precautions for Patients & Visitors

Everyone has germs. Most of them are harmless, some are helpful. A few germs, however, can make you sick. Our goal is to protect our patients, their families and visitors from germs that might make them sick. In the hospital, precautions are used as a way of stopping the spread of germs from one person to another. This page should help answer questions you/your family may have.

## **What are Airborne Precautions?**

You have been placed in “Airborne Precautions” because you may have germs that are easily spread through the air to others who may breathe in the germs. You have been placed in a private room. The air in this room goes directly outside rather than going to other areas in the hospital. The door needs to stay closed for this to be effective.

## **What will the hospital staff do?**

- Clean their hands frequently with hand sanitizer or washing with soap and water.
- Put an “Airborne Precaution” sign on your door to let people entering your room know what to do.
- Wear a special mask when entering your room.
- Place these special masks outside your door for use by all staff.

## **What can I do to help?**

- Clean your hands often, especially after coughing and sneezing.
- Be sure visitors entering your room have read the sign on your door.
- Leave the room only when medically necessary and make sure you clean your hands and wear a procedure mask whenever you do.
- Limit your visitors to a few family members or close friends.

## **What should my visitors do?**

- Clean their hands upon entering and exiting your room.
- Put on a procedure mask and before entering the room and keep it on while inside.
- Remove the mask right outside the door and perform hand hygiene after removal.

**IT IS OKAY TO REMIND OUR STAFF TO CLEAN THEIR HANDS!**

## **Department of Infection Prevention:**

Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center: x5881 or x6966

Samaritan Albany General Hospital: x4308

Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital: x7084

Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital: x7222

Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital: x4760



Samaritan  
Health Services