



SEVERE ACUTE RESPIRATORY SYNDROME

NOTICE

Since 2004, there have not been any known cases of SARS reported anywhere in the world. The content in this PDF was developed for the 2003 SARS epidemic. But, some guidelines are still being used. Any new SARS updates will be posted on this Web site.



Supplement I: Infection Control in Healthcare, Home, and Community Settings

Goals

- Ensure early recognition of patients at risk for SARS-CoV disease.
- Prevent transmission of SARS-CoV by implementing appropriate infection control precautions.

Key concepts

- SARS-CoV can be efficiently transmitted in healthcare settings if patients with SARS-CoV disease are not immediately recognized and if infection control precautions are not applied.
- Basic infection control measures are effective in preventing SARS-CoV transmission.
- Administrative measures designed to facilitate early recognition of patients with SARS-CoV disease are a critical component of SARS prevention strategies.

Priority activities

- Reinforce basic infection control practices among healthcare workers.
- Take steps to reduce transmission of respiratory viruses from symptomatic persons at the time of initial encounter with the healthcare setting.
- Develop triage strategies that ensure early recognition of patients at risk for SARS-CoV disease.
- Develop plans for appropriate SARS infection control precautions in inpatient and outpatient healthcare facilities, homes, and community isolation facilities.
- Ensure appropriate management and follow-up monitoring of healthcare workers who have had exposures to and other contacts with SARS patients.

For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/ncidod/sars or call the CDC public response hotline at (888) 246-2675 (English), (888) 246-2857 (Español), or (866) 874-2646 (TTY)