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# Healthcare Operations during the COVID-19 Pandemic- Speaker Series

February 2021

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Access speaker bios here: <https://files.asprtracie.hhs.gov/documents/healthcare-operations-speaker-series-bios--covid-19-hotel-guide.pdf>

## Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) and Environmental Health and Safety for COVID-19 Isolation and Quarantine Hotels

*Tailoring Existing Recommendations and Implementing Innovative Strategies Within the Hotel Setting*

<https://hhinternet.blob.core.windows.net/uploads/2021/01/covid-19-hotels-infection-prevention-and-environment-health-and-safety-guide.pdf>



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# Preparation & Planning for a Hotel Program

- Establish eligibility and exclusion criteria for population that will be served
- Establish pathways for clients to access services
  - Self referral
  - Care provider
- Develop a team
  - Multi-disciplinary approach
  - Close coordination with local public health and emergency response teams

# Choosing a Hotel

- Location depends on need
  - Hotels that will serve to decant healthcare facilities for influx of patients
    - Near overburdened facilities
  - Isolation or quarantine hotels
    - Near most impacted communities
- Avoid evacuation zones
- Ideal floorplans
  - Straight corridors with clean line of site of guest doors

# Environmental Health and Safety

- Safety and security management
  - Proper display of identification
  - Door locking arrangements
- Hazardous materials and waste management
  - Separate flammables from combustible materials
- Fire safety management
  - Fire alarm and fire safety features- up to date
  - Fire safety training and fire safety plan



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# IPC Considerations: Floorplan

- Assess all areas to identify ways to adapt to the setting while applying infection control strategies
  - Main lobby, elevators, lounges or conference rooms
  - Decommissioned areas on the hotel floor for dedicated clean and dirty utility rooms, staff documentation area, PPE donning and doffing rooms



# IPC Considerations: Housekeeping, Linen Management, and Food Services

- Cleaning, disinfection and linen management of client rooms
  - Develop a protocol for routine cleaning and disinfection of common surfaces and areas, terminal cleaning of rooms, linen management and trash collection
  - Use of EPA-approved disinfectants
  - Seek consultation for items which may require special considerations when cleaning (e.g., soft surfaces, carpet, electronics)
- Food Services
  - Dedicate meal delivery cart to transport meals from the food service area to the client floor
  - Consider strategies to limit client contact during meal delivery: handoff to staff stationed on the client floors; limit entry into room to deliver meal



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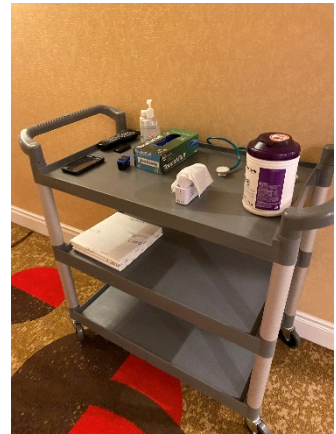
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# IPC Considerations: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Supply

- PPE ensemble
  - Gloves, gown, facemask, eye protection
  - PPE considerations for aerosol generating procedures
  - Extended use and reuse under contingency strategy
- Supply & Equipment
  - Strategically placed
    - Hallway supply carts
    - Hand hygiene stations



# IPC Considerations: Signage and In-service Training for Hotel Staff

- Signages: Importance of visual cues
  - Transmission-based isolation precautions
  - Clean/Soiled utility rooms
  - Photo guides on PPE extended use/reuse
  - Preventing cross contamination
- Education & Training
  - Review of all guidance's, processes, protocols
  - In-person with live donning/doffing in actual spaces
  - Just-in-time through recorded videos
  - Online portal with all resources





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# IPC Considerations: Clinical Operations

- Separate clients in isolation from those in quarantine
- Clinical Management
  - Triage clients
  - Set expectations: self-quarantine, self-monitor for symptoms and self-administer medicines
  - Hallway monitors
- Medical and Wellness checks
  - Wear PPE
  - Try to limit entry into client rooms
  - Consider telemedicine services

# Special Considerations for Risk Reduction Hotels

- Provide a low-risk environment for individuals living in high-risk environments (congregate care settings, shelters and prisons)
- Self-quarantine is not required
- Encourage adherence to IPC best practices
  - Enforce mask use, physical distancing and hand hygiene
  - Educate clients to self-monitor for symptoms
  - Discourage visitors
- Ensure access to healthcare providers and COVID-19 testing
- Develop a protocol for management of a client who develops COVID-19 symptoms or tests positive

# Acknowledgments

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