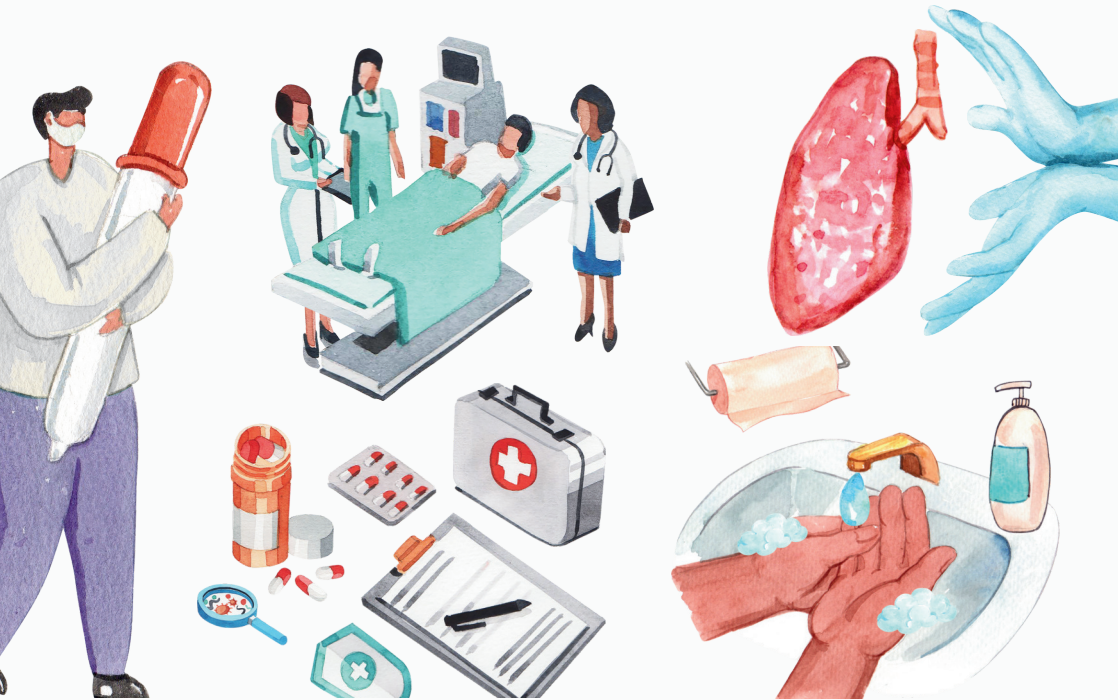


TB safety in Action : Protect, Prevent, Practice

Guide to TB Infection Control



Tuberculosis Infection Prevention and Control (TB IPC) follows a three-tiered approach:

- a.** Administrative Control (Highest Impact in reducing TB transmission):
to Prevent generation of infectious droplet nuclei
- b.** Environmental Controls (Moderate impact – reduces exposure for everyone in the area) : To reduce the concentration of droplet nuclei in the surrounding
- c.** Respiratory Protection (Individual impact protects only wearer):
For preventing inhalation of infectious droplets.

**** No single control measure is sufficient on its own, TB IPC is effective only when all three levels are implemented together.



INDEX

Table of Content

Page 03

Tuberculosis Infection
Prevention and Control –
Health Care Facility

Page 04

Know Your Facility's TB & IPC
Readiness: A Quick Checklist for
Health Care Workers

Page 05

Tuberculosis Infection
Prevention and Control –
Community & Household





Tuberculosis Infection Prevention and Control – Health Care Facility

Administrative Control

Screen & Refer / Triage - Ask patients if they have cough, refer them for early diagnosis and treatment.

Fast-Track Symptomatic - Let coughing patients skip the queue. Less time = less spread. Give mask

Separation & Segregation:

- Segregate coughing patients from other patients.
- Separately schedule DSTB and DRTB patients.

Patient Flow management:

Managing TB patients and general patient flow (Entry & Exit).

Limiting Visitors: allow only one caregiver with patient.

IEC (Posters): Cough hygiene , Hand hygiene and mask wearing

Training on IPC: Clinical and support staff in tailored role – specific TB IPC.

Environmental Control

Ventilation:

- Natural: cross ventilation
- Mechanical: includes Ceiling / Wall / Stand/ Exhaust Fan and Whirly Birds
- Hybrid: Combination of natural and mechanical ventilation.

TB OPD setting: Always use open, shaded, well-ventilated area with fresh air for TB OPD.

Upper Room UVGI Lights: Install in high-risk zones (OT, ICU TB ward), poorly ventilated zones / In high-risk settings where it is not possible to achieve adequate air exchange using natural ventilation.

Filtration (HEPA Filters): Use HEPA filter where natural ventilation is limited and risk of TB transmission/morbidity are high (bronchoscopy site, lab, TB patient rooms).

Directional airflow: Directing infectious air (infected patients) away from staff or other patients for reducing the chance of infection

****mechanical ventilation needs regular monitoring and maintenance of mechanical devices.*

Respiratory Protection

Personal Protective Equipment:

- HCWs – N95 Respirator / Mask
- Patients and Visitors – Medical / Disposable mask.
- Low resources settings – Cloth mask

Mask Fit Test: Ensure tight seal each time you wear it.

Store Mask Safely: Write your initials in one of the corners of the mask. Dry it after each use. Wrap it in a paper and keep with you in a bag/ drawer.

Safe disposal: Masks need to be disposed in Red color-coded bag. At home, mask need to be folded in plastic bag/paper keep it for 72 hours and then put it in domestic waste. Or pour soap water or 1% bleach inside, soak masks for 30 minutes.

****monitoring of IPC Consumables: Maintain inventory of IPC consumable (Soap/N95 Respirator/Mask) and compliance.*



Know Your Facility's TB & IPC Readiness: A Quick Checklist for Health Care Workers

Action Point	What to Look For / Ask
TBIC Focal Point	Know who the TBIC lead is in your facility. They help guide TB safety.
IPC Committee	Is there a functional IPC Committee? What topics are discussed and how often do they meet?
Written IPC Plan and Policy	Ask if your facility has an updated, written IPC Plan and Policy.
Allocation Budget & Resources	Are funds/resources available for masks, respirators, IEC materials, and hand hygiene?
HCWs Annual Screening	Check whether your facility conducts or supports regular TB screening for HCWs.





Tuberculosis Infection Prevention and Control – **Community & Household**

Create a SMART HOME for TB prevention -

Screen, Mask, Air Exchange and more to protect your loved ones.

S	Screen and Refer (Home/ community)	Check for TB symptoms and refer to health services for testing and treating.
M	Mask Use Indoors	Encourage patients to wear a mask inside the home until advised otherwise.
A	Air Exchange (Ventilation)	Open windows and doors daily for better airflow.
R	Respiratory Etiquette	Teach covering the mouth and nose while coughing or sneezing.
T	Tracing Contacts	Screen vulnerable groups (pregnant women, elderly, under-5s, comorbidities).
H	Hand Hygiene	Promote handwashing with soap, especially after coughing or sneezing.
O	Opposite direction (Sleeping)	When you are sharing common room and bed sleep with heads in opposite directions
M	Meals for Immunity	Eat balanced meals rich in protein and energy to boost immunity.
E	Educate Family	Teach about TB symptoms, transmission, and when to seek care.





MSF IMPACT Unit

