

RANCHO LOS AMIGOS NATIONAL REHABILITATION CENTER

Infection Prevention and Control

SUBJECT: INTRODUCTION

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Infection Prevention and Control is a discipline that applies epidemiologic and scientific principles and statistical analysis to the prevention or reduction in rates of healthcare associated infections. Effective Infection Prevention and Control programs have been proven to reduce the rates of healthcare associated infections and to be cost-effective. Infection control is a key component of the broader discipline of hospital epidemiology.

Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center has an active multidisciplinary Infection Prevention and Control program, which consists of the Infection Preventionist(s), the Infectious Disease Division and the Hospital Infection Prevention and Control Committee and a multitude of patient care departments. The program includes a group of activities to ensure that recommended practices for the prevention of healthcare associated infections are implemented and followed by healthcare workers and making the healthcare setting safe from infections for patients and healthcare personnel. The program has prevention, surveillance, investigation, control, and reporting components. The hospital infection control plan is part of Rancho's Administrative Policy Manual, see policy A 128.1.

The Infection Preventionist(s) work continuously to collect data from all areas within the hospital to identify and eliminate potential sources of infection among patients and personnel. Other responsibilities include: consultation on infection risk assessment, prevention and control strategies, performance education and training activities, implementation of evidenced-based Infection Prevention and Control practices or those mandated by regulatory and licensing agencies, application of epidemiologic principles to improve patient outcomes, participation in planning renovation and construction projects, evaluation of new products on patient outcomes, and participation in research.

The Infectious Disease Division provides consultation to all services for the care of patients with suspected or confirmed infections and actively participates in the ongoing education of the medical staff.

The Hospital Infection Prevention and Control Committee review all monthly infection reports produced by the Infection Preventionist(s). It provides specific recommendations for the care of patients with infection control concerns. It reviews and approves all sterilization, disinfection and cleaning procedures, and all other departmental procedures related to Infection Prevention and Control. In addition, the Hospital Infection Prevention and Control Committee, or its designee, has the authority to institute any surveillance, prevention and control measures or studies when there is reason to believe that any patient or personnel may be in danger. See attached Infection Prevention and Control organizational chart.

Infection Preventionist(s) SB 2032 Extension 57447 or 57474

Infectious Diseases Extension 57369

This manual was developed as a general educational tool for the prevention and control of infection. Specific recommendations for each area are outlined in each department's own policy and procedure manual.

INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

