



**BILLING CODE: 4163-18-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

[Docket No. CDC-2020-0011]

**DRAFT Infection Control in Healthcare Personnel:**

**Epidemiology and Control of Selected Infections Transmitted**

**Among Healthcare Personnel and Patients: Diphtheria, Group**

**A *Streptococcus*, Meningococcal Disease, and Pertussis**

**Sections**

**AGENCY:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),  
Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

**ACTION:** Notice with comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), announces the opening of a docket to obtain comment on the *DRAFT Infection Control in Healthcare Personnel: Epidemiology and Control of Selected Infections Transmitted Among Healthcare Personnel and Patients: Diphtheria, Group A Streptococcus, Meningococcal Disease, and Pertussis Sections* ("Draft Guideline"). The *Draft Guideline* updates four sections of the *Guideline for infection control in health care personnel, 1998* ("1998 Guideline"), *Part E: Epidemiology and Control of Selected Infections Transmitted Among Health Care Personnel and Patients*, and their

corresponding recommendations in Part II of the 1998 *Guideline*: "4. Diphtheria;" "9. Meningococcal Disease;" "12. Pertussis;" and "18. *Streptococcus*, group A infection." The updated recommendations in the *Draft Guideline* are intended for use by the leaders and staff of Occupational Health Services (OHS) to facilitate the provision of occupational infection prevention and control (IPC) services to healthcare personnel (HCP) for the management of exposed or infected HCP who may be contagious to others in the workplace.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION DATE IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. CDC-2020-0011, by any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal:  
<http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- Mail: Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion,  
National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,  
Attn: Docket No. CDC-2020-0011, HICPAC Secretariat,

1600 Clifton Rd., NE, Mailstop H16-3, Atlanta,  
Georgia, 30329.

*Instructions:* Submissions via <http://regulations.gov> are preferred. All submissions received must include the agency name and Docket Number. All relevant comments received will be posted without change to <http://regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kendra Cox, Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion, National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE., Mailstop H16-2, Atlanta, Georgia, 30329; Telephone: (404) 639-4000.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Public Participation**

Interested persons or organizations are invited to participate by submitting written views, recommendations, and data related to the *Draft Guideline*.

Please note that comments received, including attachments and other supporting materials, are part of the public record and are subject to public disclosure.

Comments will be posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>. Therefore, do not include any information in your comment or supporting materials that you consider confidential or inappropriate for public disclosure. If you include your name, contact information, or other information that identifies you in the body of your comments, that information will be on public display. CDC will review all submissions and may choose to redact, or withhold, submissions containing private or proprietary information such as Social Security numbers, medical information, inappropriate language, or duplicate/near duplicate examples of a mass-mail campaign. CDC will carefully consider all comments submitted in preparation of the final *Infection Control in Healthcare Personnel: Epidemiology and Control of Selected Infections Transmitted Among Healthcare Personnel and Patients* and may revise the final document as appropriate.

## **Background**

The *Draft Guideline*, located in the "Supporting & Related Material" tab of the docket, updates four sections of the *1998 Guideline, Part E: Epidemiology and Control of Selected Infections Transmitted Among Health Care Personnel and Patients*, and their corresponding recommendations in

Part II of the *1998 Guideline*: "4. Diphtheria;" "9. Meningococcal Disease;" "12. Pertussis;" and "18. *Streptococcus*, group A infection." That section provided information and recommendations for Occupational Health Services (OHS) of healthcare facilities and systems on the prevention of transmission of infectious diseases among healthcare personnel (HCP) and patients. Additional updated sections are forthcoming.

The *Draft Guideline* is intended for use by the leaders and staff of OHS to guide the management of exposed or infected HCP who may be contagious to others in the workplace. The draft recommendations update the 1998 recommendations with current guidance on the management of exposed or potentially infectious HCP, focusing on postexposure management, including postexposure prophylaxis (PEP), for exposed HCP and work restrictions for exposed or infected HCP.

Since 2015, the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC) has worked with national partners, academicians, public health professionals, healthcare providers, and other partners to develop this *Draft Guideline* as a recommendation for CDC to update sections of the *1998 Guideline*. HICPAC includes representatives from public health, infectious diseases,

regulatory and other federal agencies, professional societies, and other stakeholders.

The updated draft recommendations in this *Draft Guideline* are informed by reviews of the *1998 Guideline*; current CDC resources, guidance, and guidelines; and new resources and evidence, when available. This *Draft Guideline* will not be a federal rule or regulation.

Dated: February 21, 2020.

**Sandra Cashman,**

*Executive Secretary,*

*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.*

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