

## BAY-ARENAC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AUTHORITY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

<b>Chapter: 14</b>	<b>Infection Control</b>		
<b>Section: 4</b>	<b>Infection Control Management</b>		
<b>Topic: 2</b>	<b>Management and Prevention of an Influx of Infections</b>		
Page: 1 of 4	Supersedes Date: Pol: Proc: 8-29-07, 2-17-05	Approval Date: Pol: 2-17-05 Proc: 11-20-08	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> <i>Board Chairperson Signature</i>  <hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> <i>Chief Executive Officer Signature</i>
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### Policy

Bay-Arenac Behavioral Health Authority (BABHA) will ensure there is an emergency response plan to prevent the introduction and/or spread of infections within the organization.

### Purpose

This policy and procedure is established to provide guidelines or options when responding to an influx or risk of an influx of infectious consumers.

### Education applies to

- All BABHA Staff
- Selected BABHA Staff, as follows:
- All Contracted Providers:     Policy Only     Policy and Procedure
- Selected Contracted Providers, as follows:
  - Policy Only     Policy and Procedure
- BABHA's Affiliates:     Policy Only     Policy and Procedure
- Other:

### Background/Rationale

The healthcare organization is an important resource for the continued functioning of a community. An organization's ability to deliver care, treatment, or services is threatened when it is ill-prepared to respond to an epidemic or infections likely to require expanded or extended care capabilities over a prolonged period. Therefore, it is important for an organization to plan on how to prevent the introduction of the infection into the organization, how to quickly recognize that this type of infection has been introduced, and/or how to contain the spread of the infection if it is introduced.

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## Definitions

N/A

## Procedure:

### Emergency Management Guidelines for Possible Precipitants:

1. Infections Reported in the Community or Reported Through the Infection Control (I/C) Surveillance Report Form
  - A. If the Nursing Manager becomes aware of an epidemic, or a “new” and potentially contagious infection, through community resources, external resources, publications Center for Disease Control (CDC), I/C Briefings, etc.) or the I/C Surveillance Report form, the Nursing Team Leader will consult with the appropriate management of BABHA and issue appropriate warnings. This may include mandatory prevention techniques and limiting, delaying or suspending any close contacts (e.g., to only those who show no outward signs or symptoms of the presenting infection).
  
2. Scheduled Appointments or Attendance at Day Program Sites
  - A. Appointments: If BABHA personnel or the responsible contracted behavioral health service provider are aware of a consumer presenting, or their guardian or family member accompanying them, with signs or symptoms of a potentially contagious infection (e.g., flu symptoms: runny nose, coughing, sneezing, etc.), if clinically possible, the involved personnel should reschedule the service until the consumer and/or family or guardian show no outward signs or symptoms of the infection (consultation with the Nursing Manager or nurse at the site is always appropriate). This will decrease the risk of the spread of the infection to others.
  
  - B. Attendance at Day Program Sites:
    - a. If BABHA personnel or the responsible contracted behavioral health service provider are aware of a consumer presenting, or their guardian or family member accompanying them, with signs or symptoms of a potentially contagious infection or an infection that is easily spread (e.g., flu symptoms: runny nose, coughing, sneezing, temperature, etc.),

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- to a day program service provided by BABHA (e.g., The Opportunity Center or New Dimensions, etc.) the involved personnel, after consultation with the program director, may not want to accept the consumer for attendance until the consumer and/or family or guardian show no outward signs or symptoms of the infection and may require completion of 24 hours of antibiotics, if appropriate (consultation with the Nursing Manager or nurse at the site is always appropriate),
- b. If a consumer presents with head lice or ringworm, or scabies the day program will not accept the consumer until treatment is completed (this will require communication with the home personnel and an alert to other homes who have consumers at the day program), or
  - c. If there is an influx of consumers and/or employees presenting with signs or symptoms of a recognized potentially contagious infection, after consultation and approval of the Chief Executive Officer, the services at that site may be temporarily suspended.

**Attachments**

N/A

**Related Forms**

I/C Surveillance Report Form (G:\BABH\Infection Control\Tools and Forms)

**Related Materials**

**References/Legal Authority**

Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF)

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<b>SUBMISSION FORM</b>				
<b>AUTHOR/ REVIEWER</b>	<b>APPROVING BODY/COMMITTEE/ SUPERVISOR</b>	<b>APPROVAL /REVIEW DATE</b>	<b>ACTION (Deletion, New, No Changes, Replacement or Revision)</b>	<b>REASON FOR ACTION - If replacement list policy to be replaced</b>
M. Bartlett	MMPRC	11/20/2008		
M. Bartlett	MMPRC	09/21/2010	Revision	Changes made to reflect title changes and the need to be reviewed annually
M. Bartlett	MMPRC	10/18/2011	Revision	Reflects title changes and addition of CARF as a reference – no changes to P&P
M. Bartlett	MMPRC	10/17/2012	No Changes	
S. Van Paris	HPC	09/29/2015	Revision	Triennial Review – title change only
S. Van Paris	HPC	10/22/18	Revised to add scabies	Triennial review and revision adding the word “scabies”
S. Van Paris	S. Van Paris	8/31/21	Revised	Triennial Review- revised to add reference to ‘Pandemic Protocol Directory’ and title change, “Nursing Manager”
S. Van Paris	HPC	8/20/25	Revision	Triennial Review- revised to remove reference to ‘Pandemic Protocol Directory’