INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Children's®
MINNESOTA

AIRBORNE INFECTION ISOLATION ROOMS (AIIRs) AND PROTECTIVE ENVIRONMENT (PE) ROOMS INSTRUCTIONS

- **See the [AII and PE Patient Rooms List](#) on the Infection Prevention and Control page for description of room types and appropriate uses for room**
- **Door must remain completely closed to maintain the correct pressure relationship**
- **When room is being used for AII and/or PE purposes, notify Facilities to perform daily airflow checks on individual room or wing.**
- **Verifying pressure relationship using the TSI pressure monitor (Model 8630):**
    - Slide open the cover on the TSI monitor and observe the pressure reading on the TSI monitor display
    - The pressure reading should be -0.01 or less for an AII room (area is under negative pressure)
    - The pressure reading should be +0.01 or greater for a PE room (area is under positive pressure)
    - See the [AII and PE Patient Rooms List](#) on the Infection Prevention and Control page for information on pressure monitor readings specific to each room.

- **Activating/deactivating the audible alarm on the TSI pressure monitor:**
    - There is an audible alarm on the TSI monitors. When the alarm is activated, the TSI monitor will alarm if the pressure is not maintained at the appropriate level.
    - The method used to activate/deactivate the audible alarm on the TSI pressure monitors is to change the ROOM MODE.
    - **Slide cover to the right to access controls, Press the MUTE button to silence the alarms and please contact facilities.**
        - **Note: Changing the TSI pressure monitor ROOM MODE _does not_ change the airflow direction in the room. Rooms are not 'switchable' between negative, positive, and neutral pressure.**
        - When the room is not being used for airborne precautions or protective environment purposes, the ROOM MODE can be set to NO ISOLATION in order to deactivate the alarm.
        - When the room is being used for airborne precautions purposes, the ROOM MODE on the TSI monitor should be set to NEGATIVE.
        - When the room is being used for protective environment purposes, the ROOM MODE should be set to POSITIVE.
        - When using a Combo AII/PE room, there are two pressure monitors (one in the hallway and one in the ante room). The ROOM MODE on each monitor should be set to NEGATIVE or POSITIVE in accordance with the pressure monitor reading indicated for each pressure monitor box in the [AII and PE Patient Rooms List](#).
    - If a room has an automatic closer on the door and/or the door will stay closed even when room is not being used for airborne precautions or protective environment purposes, the alarm can stay activated.
    - If a room does not have an automatic closer on the door or the door will be kept open when room is not in use for airborne precautions or protective environment purposes, the alarm should be deactivated.

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- **Verifying pressure relationship using the TSI pressure monitor (Digital Screen):**
  - The pressure reading should be -0.01 or less for an AII room (area is under negative pressure)

- **Activating/deactivating the TSI pressure monitor:**
  - There is an audible alarm on the TSI monitor. If the pressure is not obtained or maintained at the appropriate level the screen will read "Alarm" with a red background.
  - The method used to activate the AII room is to turn the key from "Neutral" to "Neg."
  - The display will change to "Normal" with a green background when the door is closed and appropriate pressure has been achieved.
  - Returning the room back to normal operations: See the AII and PE Patient Rooms List on the Infection Prevention and Control page for information on required minutes the room needs to be vacant.
  - Turn the alarm key back to the "Neutral" position and the screen will read "Standard" with blue background.
  - Please contact facilities if there any needs regarding this monitor.
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- **Contact Information**
  - Facilities – Minneapolis: 612-813-6202
  - Facilities – St. Paul: 612-654-5311
  - Infection Prevention and Control: 952-260-9021

- **Frequently asked questions**

  Q: What is a HEPA filter used for?
  A: HEPA is a high-efficiency particulate air. It is used to filter out harmful particles and odors in the environment. This device cleans the air, but does not convert a room to negative airflow.

  Q: What is an AII Room (AIIR)?
  A: Airborne Infection Isolation Room. This is a negative pressure room that is designed to protect the individuals from outside the room from the patient/environment inside the room.

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Q: Is there a difference in AIIR and modified AIIR?
A: There is not a difference in how the rooms function. AIIRs and modified AIIRs filter air out of patient rooms through negative pressure. The HEPA filter is connected to a duct system that runs from the side or the top of the filter and connects to the hospital internal duct system to circulate the air out of the patient room. These pictures illustrate examples of modified HEPA filtration systems.

Q: How can a HEPA or modified AIIR be requested?
A: Complete a request in the St. Croix system for facilities to review. Include the room number in the request.

Q: What is the room turnover for a standard room (non-AII) if used by a patient in Airborne Precautions?
A: If a patient in Airborne Precautions is using a standard room, you must allow an air clearance time of 60 minutes. During this time, rooms should remain vacant with the door closed before the next patient AND/OR staff entering the room should wear respiratory protection.