

## **HICPAC Isolation Precautions Guideline Workgroup Call**

August 29, 2024, 2:00 pm ET

### **Participants**

Workgroup: Mike Lin, Sharon Wright, Hilary Babcock, William Bennett, Lisa Brosseau, Elaine Dekker, Judith Guzman-Cottrill, Robert Harrison, Morgan Katz, Melissa McDiarmid, Erica Shenoy, Connie Steed, Jane Thomason

CDC: Marie de Perio, Alex Kallen, Kenneth Mead, Devon Okasako-Schmucker, Melissa Schaefer, Erin Stone, David Weissman, Laura Wells

### **Agenda**

- Attendance and conflicts of interest disclosure
- Recap of HICPAC meeting related to Isolation Precautions workgroup (WG)
- Straw poll results discussion
  - Question 3
  - Question 4
- Updated timeline and next steps

### **Discussion Summary**

- No new conflicts of interest were disclosed.

### Recap of the August 22, 2024 HICPAC meeting related to Isolation Precautions WG

- Dr. Wright summarized the Isolation Precautions WG presentation at the August 22<sup>nd</sup> public HICPAC meeting.
- The WG also discussed portions of the draft Recommendation Categorization and Articulation Framework for CDC's Infection Control Guidelines, presented at the HICPAC meeting by CDC, that could impact the format of the Isolation Precautions guideline, once the WG is ready to make updates to the draft.

### Straw poll results discussion – Question 3

- The WG discussed CDC question 3: Is the current guideline language sufficient to allow for voluntary use of a NIOSH approved® N95® (or higher-level) respirator? Should the document include a recommendation about healthcare organizations allowing voluntary use?
  - N95 and NIOSH Approved are certification marks of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) registered in the United States and several international jurisdictions.
  - The WG reviewed proposed draft options for alternate language to the current draft on the topic of voluntary use.
  - WG members discussed the purview of OSHA versus CDC regarding recommending that healthcare facilities allow and provide for voluntary use of respirators.
  - WG members acknowledged that if a consensus on the draft alternative language is not reached, then more than one option may be presented to HICPAC for a vote.

### Updated timeline and next steps

- Based on the need for additional discussion, the conversation on Question 3 will continue at the next meeting.
- Question 4 will also be discussed at the next meeting.

- A discussion on clinical studies that was originally planned for the next meeting will be tentatively scheduled for the September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The call adjourned at 3:01 pm with no additional comments or questions.

The next Workgroup call is scheduled for September 12, 2024, at 2 pm ET.