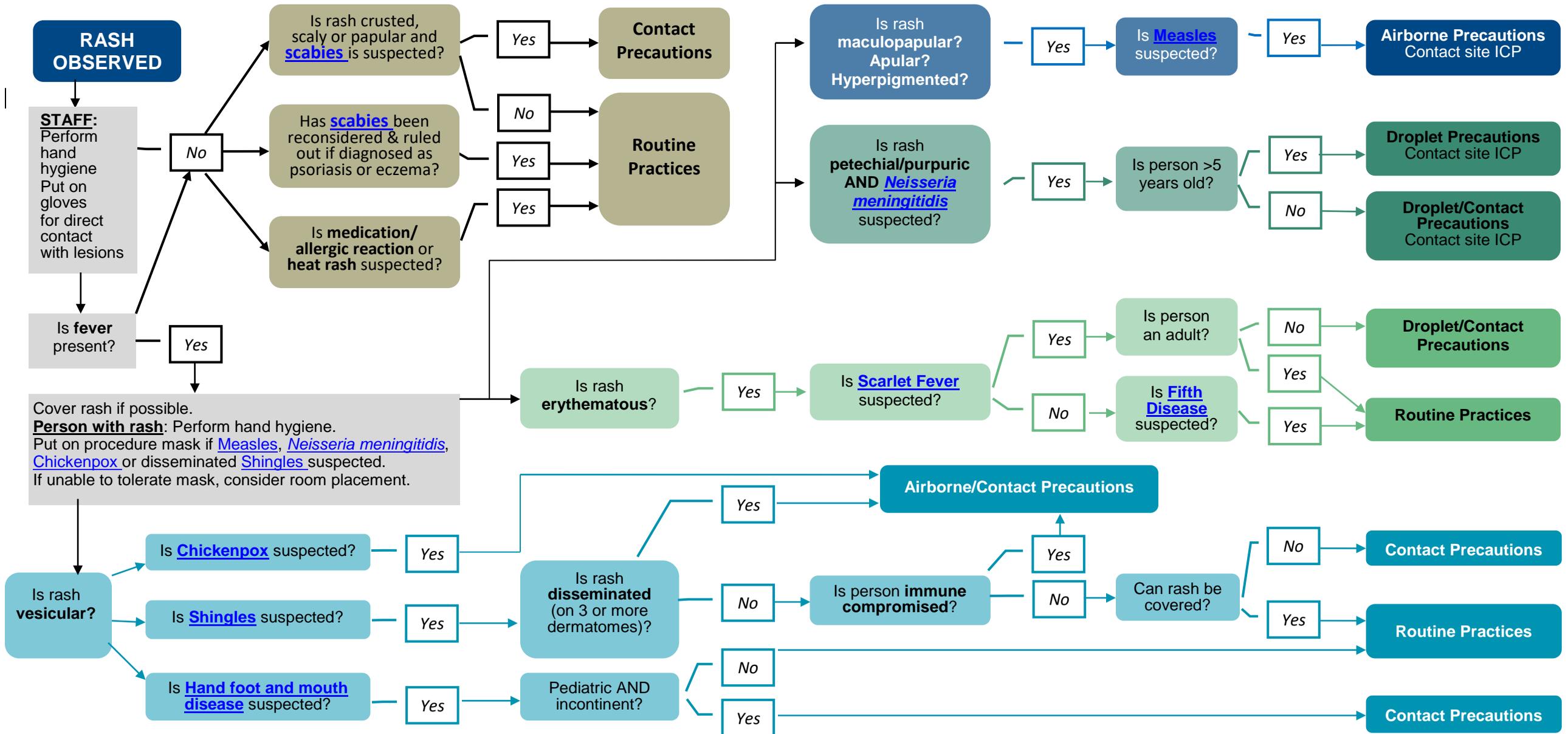


Infectious Rash Infection Prevention and Control Measures Algorithm

Updated: July 2023



Algorithm includes initial IP&C highlights only, not treatment recommendations. Consider differential and additional diagnoses; if suspected cause/the answer "No" is not shown, use best clinical judgment.

This algorithm includes highlights of some common or consequential infectious rashes. It is not exhaustive and is intended to be used as a guideline with clinical judgment and risk benefit analysis. People who heavily contaminate the environment or are Immune compromised may require additional measures. See [Microorganism, Infectious Diseases Table](#) or [Clinical Presentation and Empiric Precautions Table](#)

Crusted (Norwegian) Scabies rash



Image courtesy of Joseph Conlon MD

Typical Scabies rash



(papular: small, red, raised lesions)

image courtesy of [Indian Journal of Dermatology, Venereology and Leprology \(ijdvl.com\)](http://www.IndianJournalofDermatology,VenereologyandLeprology(ijdvl.com))

Neisseria meningitidis rash



(petechial/ purpuric: tiny or large, purple or red spots that do not blanch)

Image courtesy [American Academy of Pediatrics](http://www.AmericanAcademyofPediatrics.org)



The rash can be harder to see on brown or black skin. Check paler areas, such as the palms of the hands, soles of the feet, roof of the mouth, stomach, whites of the eyes or the inside of the eyelids

Image courtesy of the [National Health Service \(NHS\) UK](http://www.NationalHealthService(NHS)UK)

Measles rash



(maculopapular: small, flat, red areas and small, red raised lesions)

Image courtesy [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](http://www.CentersforDiseaseControlandPrevention.org)



In darker skin, measles appears to look hyperpigmented rather than erythematous looking

Image courtesy of [Black & Brown Skin](http://www.Black&BrownSkin.org)

Localized Shingles rash



(vesicular: small fluid filled sacs)



The skin surrounding the vesicles is typically discolored and depending on skin tone may appear purple, dark pink or dark brown
Image courtesy of the [National Health Service \(NHS\) UK](https://www.nhs.uk)

Disseminated Shingles rash



(vesicular: small fluid filled sacs)



The skin surrounding the vesicles is typically discolored and depending on skin tone may appear purple, dark pink or dark brown
Image courtesy of the [National Health Service \(NHS\) UK](https://www.nhs.uk)

Fifth Disease rash



May be harder to see in persons with darker skin tones



(erythematous: many red, pink and pale rings that blanch)

Chicken Pox rash



Image courtesy [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](https://www.cdc.gov)



(vesicular: small fluid filled sacs)

Image courtesy [Infectious Diseases Society of America](https://www.infectiousdiseasesociety.org)