

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER  
WEST TEXAS VA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

March 25, 2002

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE NO. 28

**Infection Control Standards for Construction/Renovation Projects and Related Maintenance Activities**

1. **PURPOSE:** To develop the policies and procedures to minimize the risk of transmission of infection, primarily aspergillosis and other fungal infection, but also legionellosis and bacterial infections, during, or as a result of, construction/renovation or appropriate maintenance activities.
2. **PROCEDURES:**
  - a. Engineering Service Projects Section will inform the Infection Control Committee of any construction projects involving patient care areas or air handling systems.
  - b. The type of construction or maintenance activity to be done and the degree of risk to the patients, employees or visitors will determine infection control procedures. Attachment A defines the different construction and maintenance activity types and the level of prevention and control required and the infection risk by area. Attachment B lists the actual prevention and control procedures. Engineering Service and contractor personnel will comply with infection control procedures.
  - c. A pre-construction checklist that will be completed prior to the start of any construction (Attachment C). Projects Section will ensure that Infection Control reviews and signs the checklist and that it becomes part of the project folder.
3. **RESPONSIBILITIES:**
  - a. The Chief Engineer, is responsible for the overall Engineering Service Infection Control Standards for Construction/Renovation Projects and appropriate maintenance activities.
  - b. The Associate Chief Engineer, Projects is responsible for ensuring that these procedures are implemented for all construction/renovation projects.

- c. The Associate Chief Engineer, Maintenance and Operations is responsible for ensuring that these procedures are implemented for all appropriate maintenance activities.
- 4. **REFERENCES:** WTVAHCS Infection Control Manual.
- 5. **RESCISSION:** Engineering Service Memorandum No. 28, dated March 20, 2000.
- 6. **FOLLOW-UP RESPONSIBILITY:** Associate Chief Engineer, Projects (138).

Att: 3

DISTRIBUTION: Standard Operating Procedure Manual (138)  
Projects: All Employees  
M&O: All Supervisors  
Infection Control Committee