Appendix A - POCRA Algorithm

(Adapted from CHICA-Canada; Audit Toolkit 2010)

Part A

The answers to the following questions will determine accommodation needs:

Does the client have a new or worse cough or shortness of breath with fever or chills?
Does the client have copious uncontrolled respiratory secretions?
Does the client have a sudden onset of fever, intense headache, nausea, vomiting, stiff neck and photophobia.
Is the client unable/unwilling to comply with respiratory hygiene, hand hygiene, etc.?
Is there active soiling of the environment (e.g., uncontained diarrhea, wound drainage not contained by a dressing?)
Does the client have a suspected infection of unknown etiology (with or without a history of travel)?

If client is in a health care facility continue:
If client is in the community setting skip to part (B)

Part B

The answers to the following questions will determine PPE needs during any direct or indirect interaction with a client (e.g., giving a bed bath, performing a clinical procedure):

Will I be exposed to body fluids (e.g., blood, excretions, secretions)?

If yes, PUT ON PPE as INDICATED

Will my hands be exposed to blood, diarrhea, vomit, non-intact skin, rash or contaminated items?

If yes, WEAR GLOVES & PERFORM HAND HYGIENE

Will my face be exposed to a splash, spray, or an uncontained cough?

If yes, WEAR FACIAL PROTECTION (Procedure mask & eye shield or goggles)

Will my clothing or skin be exposed to splashes/sprays or items contaminated with blood, excretions or secretions?

If yes, WEAR an APRON/GOWN (wear gown when exposed to large amounts of fluids)