

C. difficile Facility Layout: Private Rooms and Dedicated Toilets

THE DIRECT ANSWER

The facility-layout control that matters most for *Clostridioides difficile* is a single-patient room with a dedicated toilet. If no private room exists, cohort only confirmed CDI patients and still give each person a dedicated toilet or commode—never a shared bathroom with a non-CDI roommate. That placement rule comes from CDC acute-care CDI guidance and the SHEA/IDSA/APIC 2022 prevention update; hand hygiene, EPA List K sporicidal cleaning, and antibiotic stewardship are essential but are not substitutes for toilet access and room flow. By Will Tygart.

CDC AND SHEA PLACEMENT EXPECTATIONS

- CDC clinical guidance for CDI prevention in acute care tells teams to place symptomatic patients on contact precautions in a single-patient room with a dedicated toilet.

FGI 2026, MASTER PLANNING, AND NEW CONSTRUCTION

- For capital work permitted under an adopted FGI 2026 Code edition, inpatient planning still centers on patient-care bedrooms with toilet access configured for the care model—not a distant shared bath at the end of the ward.

FIELD QUESTION

Does a CDI patient need a private room?

CDC guidance calls for a single-patient room with a dedicated toilet for symptomatic patients on contact precautions. When private rooms are unavailable, cohort only patients with confirmed CDI—not general roommates—and still provide dedicated toilets or commodes so non-CDI patients do not share the same bathroom.

By Will Tygart. Facility design and EVS only — not clinical treatment, not antibiotic stewardship.

Caution: codes, editions, and targets vary by facility and authority having jurisdiction (AHJ). Figures marked as common practice are facility targets, not code requirements. Confirm against your AHJ and the current code text before acting.

healthcarefacilityhub.org/c-difficile-facility-layout-private-room-dedicated-toilet/

Free field sheet from Healthcare Facility Hub. The live page is the current version - this sheet was generated October 2026. Scan the code to open the full article.

