

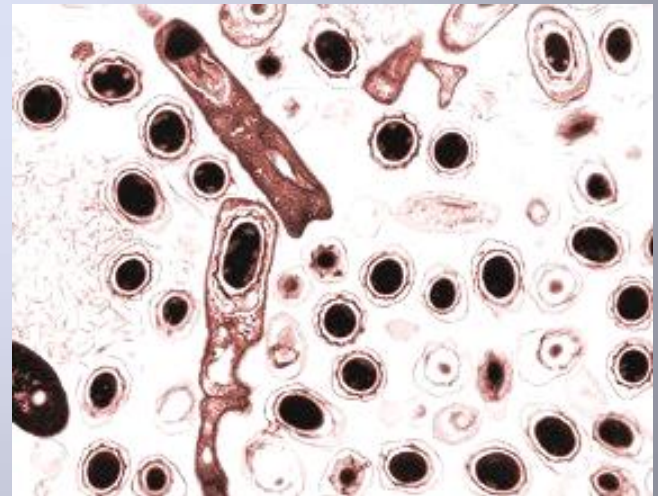
# HOSPITAL ISOLATION ROOM HVAC SYSTEM DESIGN

---

Presented to:


ASHRAE YEA Illinois Chapter  
Specialty Environment Design Conference  
March 24, 2014

Jean O. Gibbons, PE, LEED AP  
Senior Vice President  
Grumman/Butkus Associates



# Hospital Isolation Room HVAC System Design

---

- Types of Isolation Rooms
  - Codes/Standards/References
  - Design Criteria
  - Design Considerations
  - Design Examples
- 

# Types of Isolation Rooms

---

## Airborne Infection Isolation (AII) Rooms

- Used to reduce the spread of airborne infectious diseases (TB) from the patient in the AII Room to the rest of the hospital.
- Most common type seen in hospitals

## Protective Isolation/Environment Rooms

- Used to protect the patient (typically an immune suppressed patient) in the protective environment from common environmental airborne infectious microbes.
- Less common than AII

## Convertible Isolation Rooms

- Rooms that can be converted from an AII Room (negative) to a Protective Environment Room (positive)
- Out of date concept - not allowed by ASHRAE Standard 170

## Combination AII/PE Rooms

- Used for an immune suppressed patient who has an infectious disease.
- Protects both patient and rest of hospital.

# Codes/Standards/References

---

- “Guidelines for Environmental Infection Control in Health-Care Facilities”, Recommendations of CDC and the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC), 2003
- Codes:
  - Illinois Administrative Code – will refer to as IDPH
    - Title 77: Public Health  
Chapter I: Department Of Public Health  
Subchapter B: Hospitals And Ambulatory Care Facilities  
Part 250 Hospital Licensing Requirements
    - For HVAC: refer to Section 250.2480 Mechanical
  - International Mechanical Code (IMC) - applicable to most suburbs
  - City of Chicago Building Code
- Standard:
  - ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170 – Ventilation of Health Care Facilities (2013)
  - NFPA 101
- Guidelines
  - Facility Guidelines Institute (FGI) Guidelines (2014) – for ventilation refers to ASHRAE Standard 170 - 2013

# Airborne Infectious Isolation Room

## Design Step 1: Develop HVAC Design Criteria

---

Temperature, humidity, airflow and pressurization requirements

### CDC

- Temp/humidity – not addressed
- Min 12 ach exhaust for rooms constructed since 2001
- Min 0.001" H<sub>2</sub>O pressure differential to achieve airflow into room (this is too low – need 0.01" wg)

### IDPH

- 75F
- 30% rh winter min, 60% rh summer max
- 15 cfm per bed / 10 cfm per bed OA
- All air exhausted to outdoors
- Airflow into room

### ASHRAE Standard 170-2013 (incorporates CDC)

- 70F-75F – ability to maintain at all times
- 60%rh
- 12 ach minimum total airflow/2 ach outside air
- All air exhausted to outside
- Negative pressure relative to adjacent spaces

# Airborne Infectious Isolation Room

## Design Step 1: Develop HVAC Design Criteria

---

Use most stringent of IDPH/ASHRAE Standard 170

---

Temperature: 70F to 75F

---

Humidity: 30% rh winter min, 60% rh summer max

---

Airflow: 12 ach total/ 2 ach OA

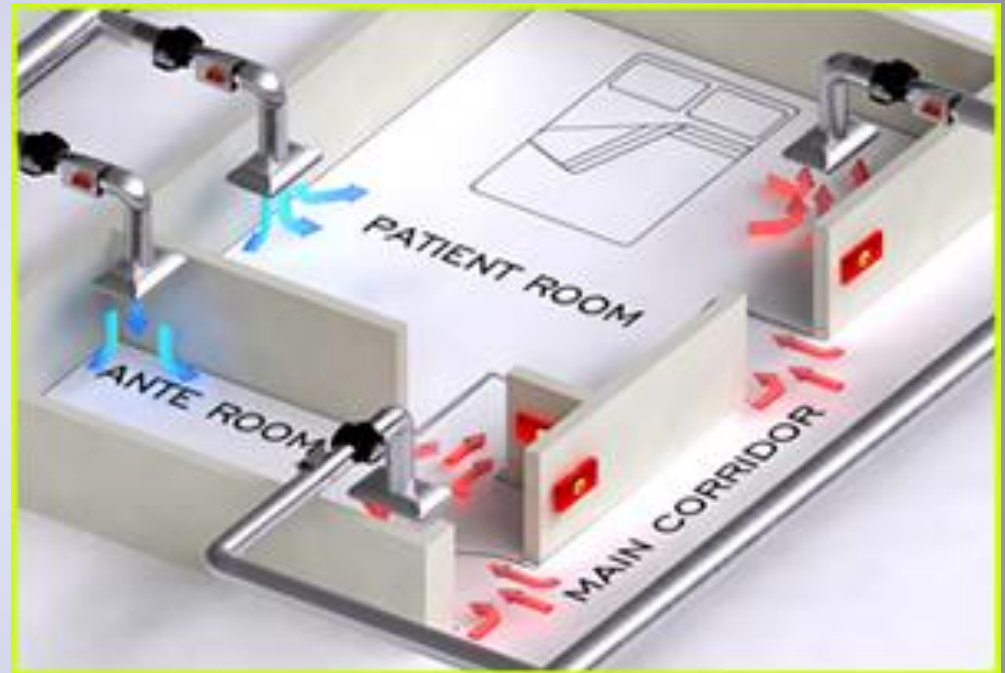
---

Pressure: Negative to adjacent areas

---

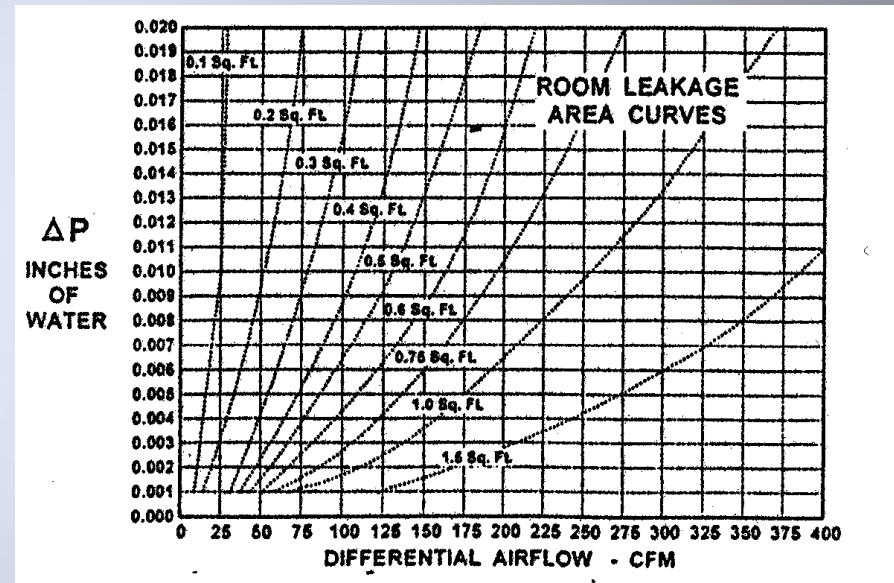
# Airborne Infectious Isolation Room Architectural Design Considerations

- Ante room with hand wash sink (IDPH Section 250-2440)
  - Note not required by FGI or ASHRAE
- One toilet room per All room



# Airborne Infectious Isolation Room Architectural Design Considerations

- All room constructed to minimize leakage areas and allow for room pressurization
  - Walls – slab-to-slab
  - Ceilings – plaster or drywall
  - Self-closing doors (swing out for negatively pressurized spaces; swing in for positively pressurized spaces) with door sweeps
  - Sliding doors preferred
  - Finishes should be smooth and cleanable
  - Label room use (signage)
  - Seal all penetrations





# Airborne Infectious Isolation Room Pressurization Design Considerations

---

All room negative to  
ante room/ante room  
negative to corridor  
(ASHRAE)

Min  $\Delta P$  between All  
room and adjacent  
rooms/corridor -0.01"  
wg (ASHRAE)

Min of 10% more EA  
than SA but no less  
than 50 cfm

- New tight construction -  
200cfm to 300 cfm differential
- Poorly constructed - 300 cfm  
to 500 cfm

Permanently installed  
 $\Delta P$  monitoring device  
(ASHRAE)

Provide provisions to change HVAC for normal patient care  
room use (IDPH only/different than ASHRAE)

# Airborne Infectious Isolation Room Room Supply and Exhaust Design Considerations

---

- Ante room airflow: 10 ach (ASHRAE)
- Location of supply diffusers and exhaust grilles - CDC 2003 and ASHRAE Standard 170 disagree
  - CDC 2003: Supply above patient, exhaust low on wall
  - ASHRAE Standard 170 2008/2013: “Exhaust grilles or registers ... shall be located directly above the patient bed on the ceiling or on the wall near the head of the bed...”
  - Designer may consider discussing discrepancy with hospital infection control.
  - If chose to supply above patient use non-aspirating laminar flow type diffusers

# Airborne Infectious Isolation Room

## Other Design Considerations

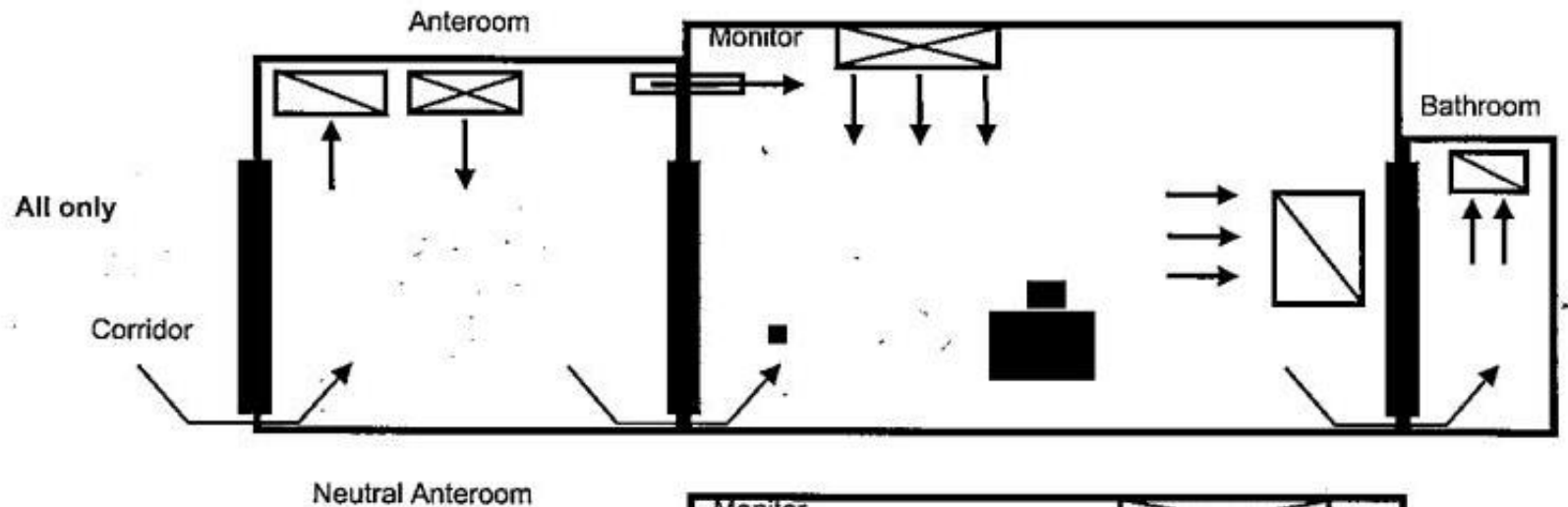
---

- SA must be from AHU that has code-required filtration:
  - Min MERV 7 prefilters and MERV 14 final filters (IDPH/ASHRAE)
- Exhaust air from All/ante room/toilet room shall not mix with non-All room exhaust (ASHRAE)
- Induction units and baseboard heaters should be avoided – surfaces must be cleanable. Use radiant panels if perimeter heat is required

# Airborne Infectious Isolation Room Airflow Diagram

Diagram from CDC Guidelines

Figure 4. Example of airborne infection isolation (AII) room with anteroom and neutral anteroom\* + §



# Airborne Infectious Isolation Room Room HVAC Design Example

## Exhaust system:

- EA from AHII to maintain 12 ach: 1,500 cfm
- Toilet exhaust: 100 cfm
- EA from ante room to maintain 10 ach: 250 cfm
- Constant volume exhaust box to maintain EA / Total EA = 1,400 cfm + 100 cfm + 250 cfm = 1,750 cfm

## Transfer air from corridor to ante room and ante room to AII room

- Assume mid range in tightness – use 300 cfm transfer air (TA)

## Supply system:

- AII SA = EA – TA from ante room + TA to toilet / AII SA = 1,400 cfm – 300 cfm + 100 cfm = 1,200 cfm
- Constant volume box to maintain total SA / Total SA = 1,200 cfm + 250 cfm = 1,450 cfm
- SA to ante room: 250 cfm (Ante room neutral)
- Reheat coil to provide space temperature control

# Airborne Infectious Isolation Room Room HVAC Design Example

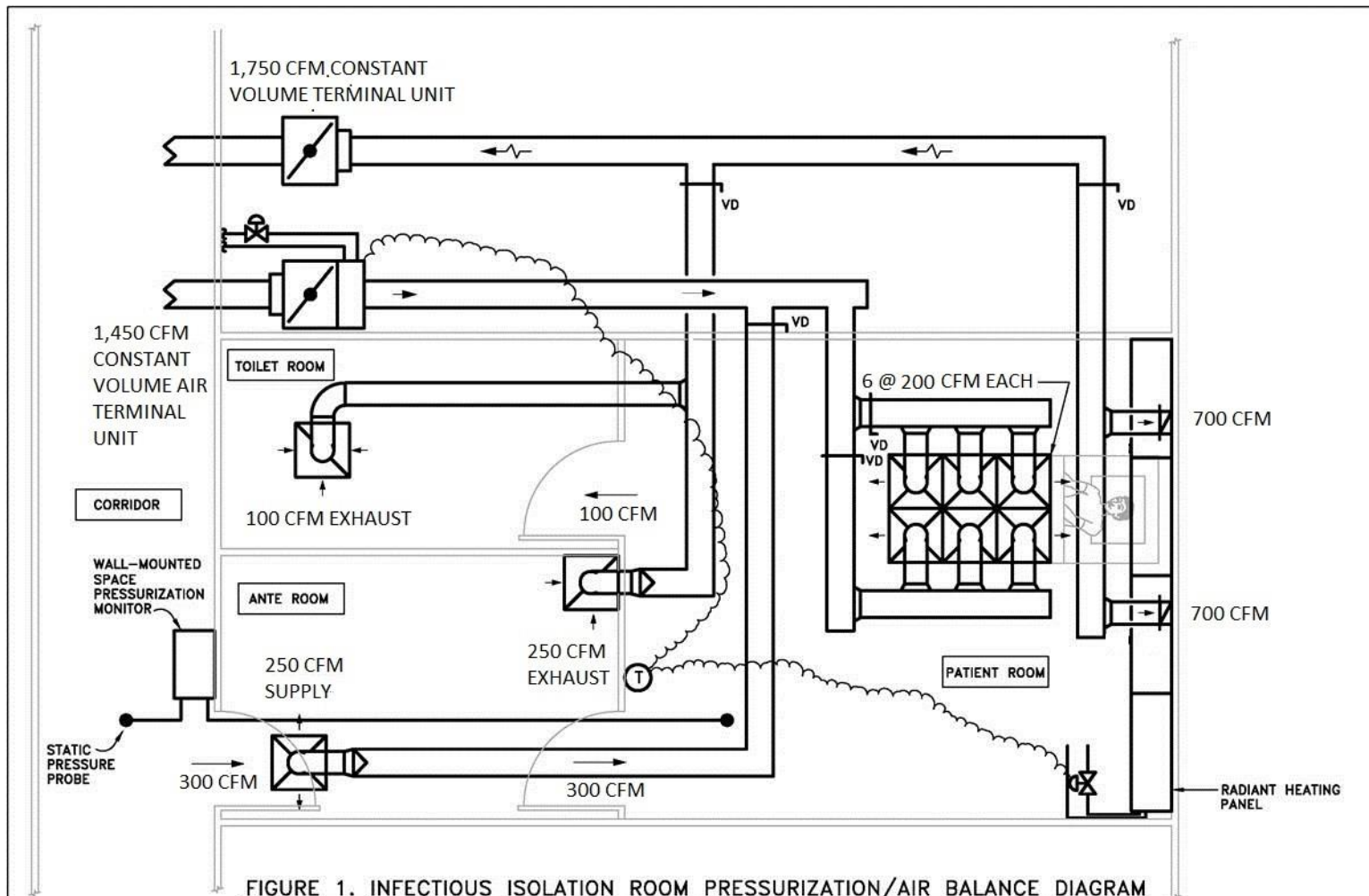


FIGURE 1. INFECTIOUS ISOLATION ROOM PRESSURIZATION/AIR BALANCE DIAGRAM  
AIRFLOW RATES SHOWN ARE FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY

# Airborne Infectious Isolation Room Room HVAC Design Example

- Example of a All Ventilation Schedule (numbers do not match example)

IDPH VENTILATION SCHEDULE - LEVEL TWO - CONTINUED											
ROOM NUMBER	ROOM NAME	ROOM FUNCTION	ROOM DATA				IDPH CODE REQUIREMENTS				
			AREA (SQ.FT.)	CEILING HEIGHT (FT.)	VOLUME (CU. FT.)	NUMBER OF OCCUP.	AIRFLOW			AIR CHANGES PER HOUR (ACH)	SPACE PRESSURIZATION (+, -, N)
							SUPPLY (CFM)	RETURN (CFM)	EXHAUST (CFM)		
2-122	PED ISOL 122	INFECTIOUS ISOLATION ROOM	382	9	3,247	5	541	NR	649	12	(-)
2-122A	TOILET 122	TOILET ROOM	51	8	408	1	NR	NR	68	10	(-)
2-122B	ANTE	ISOLATION ROOM ANTEROOM	56	9	476	0	79	NR	NR	10	(+) or (-)

DESIGN							SERVED BY SYSTEM			REMARKS
AIRFLOW			% OF IDPH CODE REQ. SUPPLY AIRFLOW	% OF IDPH CODE REQ. EXHAUST AIRFLOW	AIR CHANGES PER HOUR (ACH)	SPACE PRESSURIZATION (+, -, N)	SUPPLY	RETURN	EXHAUST	
SUPPLY (CFM)	RETURN (CFM)	EXHAUST (CFM)								
625	0	700	115%	108%	13	(-)	AHU-30&31	-	IE-1	
0	0	125	NR	184%	18	(-)	-	-	IE-1	
150	0	100	189%	NR	19	(+)	AHU-30&31	-	IE-1	

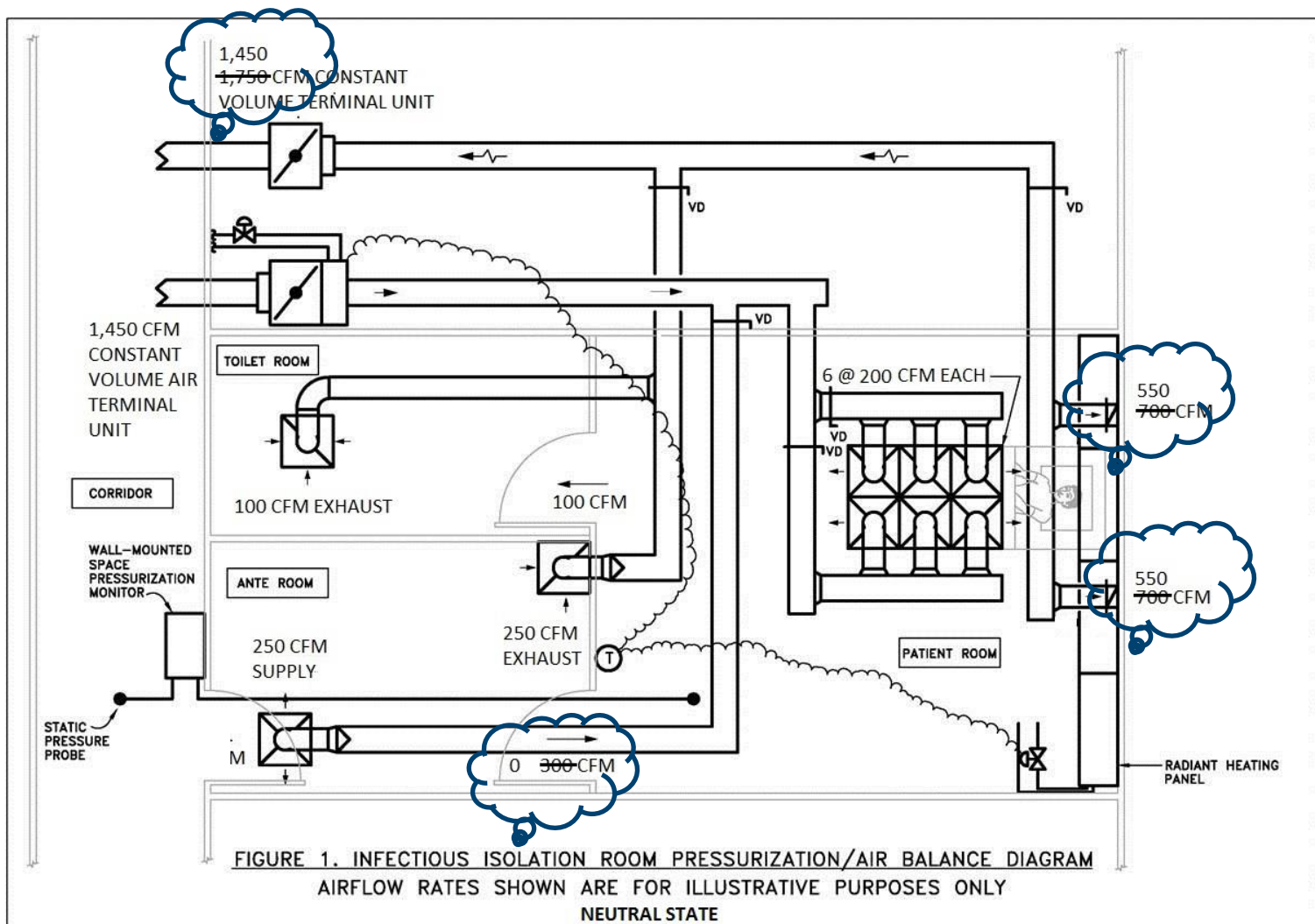
# Airborne Infectious Isolation Room Room HVAC Design Example

Example simplified AII room sequence of operation, including IDPH required switch to neutral:

- Modulate supply CAV air terminal unit damper to maintain supply airflow setpoint.
- Modulate exhaust air terminal unit damper to maintain exhaust airflow setpoint.
- Modulate reheat valve and radiation valve to maintain temperature setpoint.
- Coordinate with users to setup time delay to allow entrance/exit to the pressurized space without audible alarm.
- If an exhaust fan failure alarm is received at the front end, close the supply air terminal damper operator.
- **When room pressurization state is set to neutral:**
  - **The BAS shall change CV air terminal unit setpoint such that the AII exhaust airflow is equal to the supply airflow – accounting for TE**
  - **SA = 1,200 cfm**
  - **EA=SA-TA to toilet=1,100 cfm**



# Airborne Infectious Isolation Room with IDPH Required Neutral State



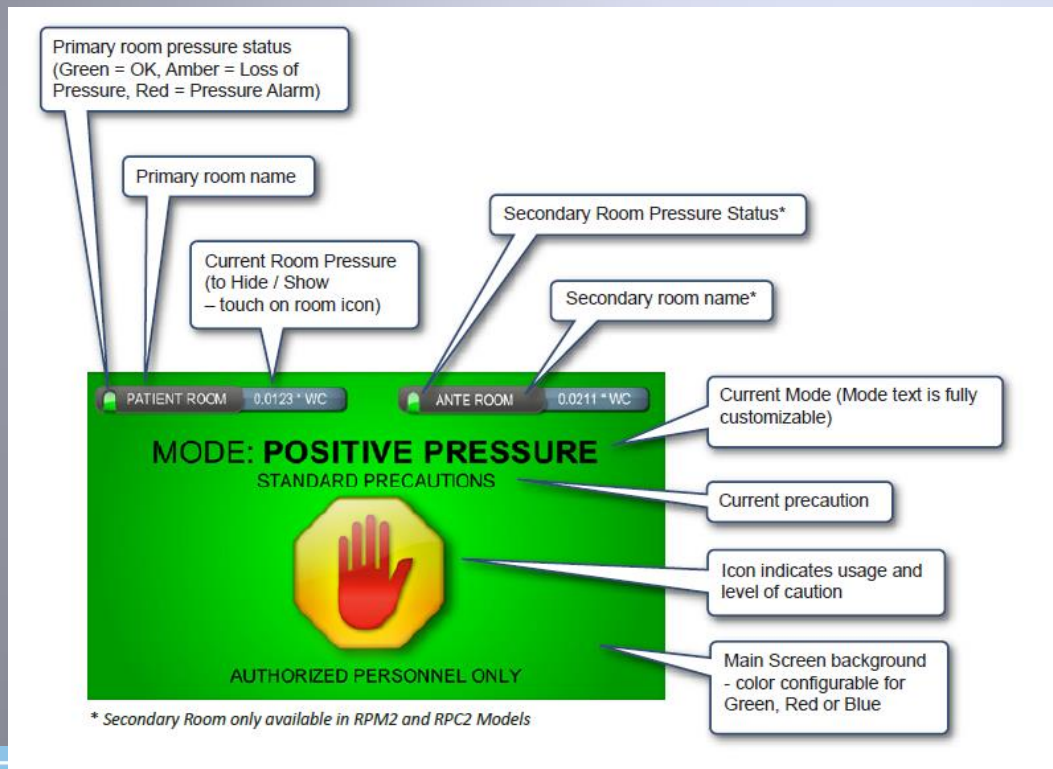
# Airborne Infectious Isolation Room Room Pressure Monitors

- Locate outside of ante room door in corridor
- Alarms visually and audibly if negative pressure is not maintained.
- Tie-in alarm to building automation system
- To avoid nuisance alarms, control to a higher point  $\Delta P$  than to the  $\Delta P$  at which the alarm is set
  - Control to 0.03" and alarm at 0.01".



# Airborne Infectious Isolation Room Room Pressure Monitors

- Look for monitors that are easy for nursing staff to read and understand.



# Airborne Infectious Isolation Room Central System Design

## ➤ Exhaust System

- Locate exhaust fan outside, if possible
- If exhaust fan is inside, use welded duct construction downstream of fan
- Bag in/bag out prefilter/HEPA filter upstream of the exhaust fan
- VFDs for the exhaust fan to adjust fan speed as filters load up
- Locate fan discharge away from all intakes and above roof, if possible
- Consider large exhaust system to serve multiple rooms instead of multiple smaller exhaust systems
- Provide emergency power for fans



# Airborne Infectious Isolation Room Central System Design

## ➤ Supply System

- Can supply from same AHU system that serves adjacent patient rooms
- Must have Min MERV 7 prefilters and MERV 14 final filters (IDPH/ASHRAE)
- Must be able to humidify to IDPH required 30% rh



# Protective Isolation Room

## Design Step 1: Develop HVAC Design Criteria

---

Use most stringent of IDPH/ASHRAE Standard 170

---

Temperature: 70F to 75F

---

Humidity: 30% rh winter min, 60% rh summer max

---

Airflow: 12 ach total/ 2 ach OA

---

Pressure: **Positive** to adjacent areas

---

# Protective Environment Room Pressurization Design Considerations

---

PE room positive to  
ante room/ante room  
**positive to corridor**  
(ASHRAE)

Min  $\Delta P$  between PE  
room and adjacent  
rooms/corridor  
**+0.01" wg** (ASHRAE)

Min of 10% **more SA**  
**than EA** but no less  
than 50 cfm

- New tight construction -  
200cfm to 300 cfm differential
- Poorly constructed - 300 cfm  
to 500 cfm

Permanently installed  
 $\Delta P$  monitoring device  
(ASHRAE)

Provide provisions to change HVAC for normal patient care  
room use (IDPH only/different than ASHRAE)

# Protective Isolation Room

## Room Supply and Exhaust Design Considerations

---

- Same requirements as All room except:
  - Location of supply diffusers and exhaust grilles
    - ASHRAE Standard 170 “Supply diffusers shall be above the patient bed... Diffuser design shall limit air velocity at patient bed to reduce patient discomfort
    - ASHRAE Standard 170 “Return/exhaust grilles shall be located near the patient door.”
  - SA must be from AHU that has code-required filtration:
    - Min MERV 7 prefilters and **HEPA final filters** (ASHRAE) or
    - MERV 14 final filters with **terminal HEPA filter**



# Airborne Infectious Isolation Room Room HVAC Design Example

## Supply system:

- SA from PE to maintain 12 ach: 1,400 cfm
- SA to ante room: 250 cfm
- Constant volume box to maintain total SA / Total SA = 1,400 cfm + 250 cfm = 1,650 cfm
- Reheat coil to provide space temperature control

## Transfer air from PE room to ante room and ante room to corridor

- Assume mid range in tightness – use 300 cfm transfer air (TA)

## Return/Exhaust system:

- Air from ante room and PE room may be returned to AHU / RA from Ante Room: 250 cfm
- Toilet exhaust must be exhausted to outside / TE: 100 cfm
- PE room RA = PE room SA – TA to ante room – TA to toilet = 1,400 cfm - 300 cfm - 100 cfm = 1,000 cfm
- Constant volume box to maintain total RA
- Total RA = RA from PE room + RA from ante room = 1,000 cfm + 250 cfm = 1,250 cfm

# Protective Environment Room Room HVAC Design Example

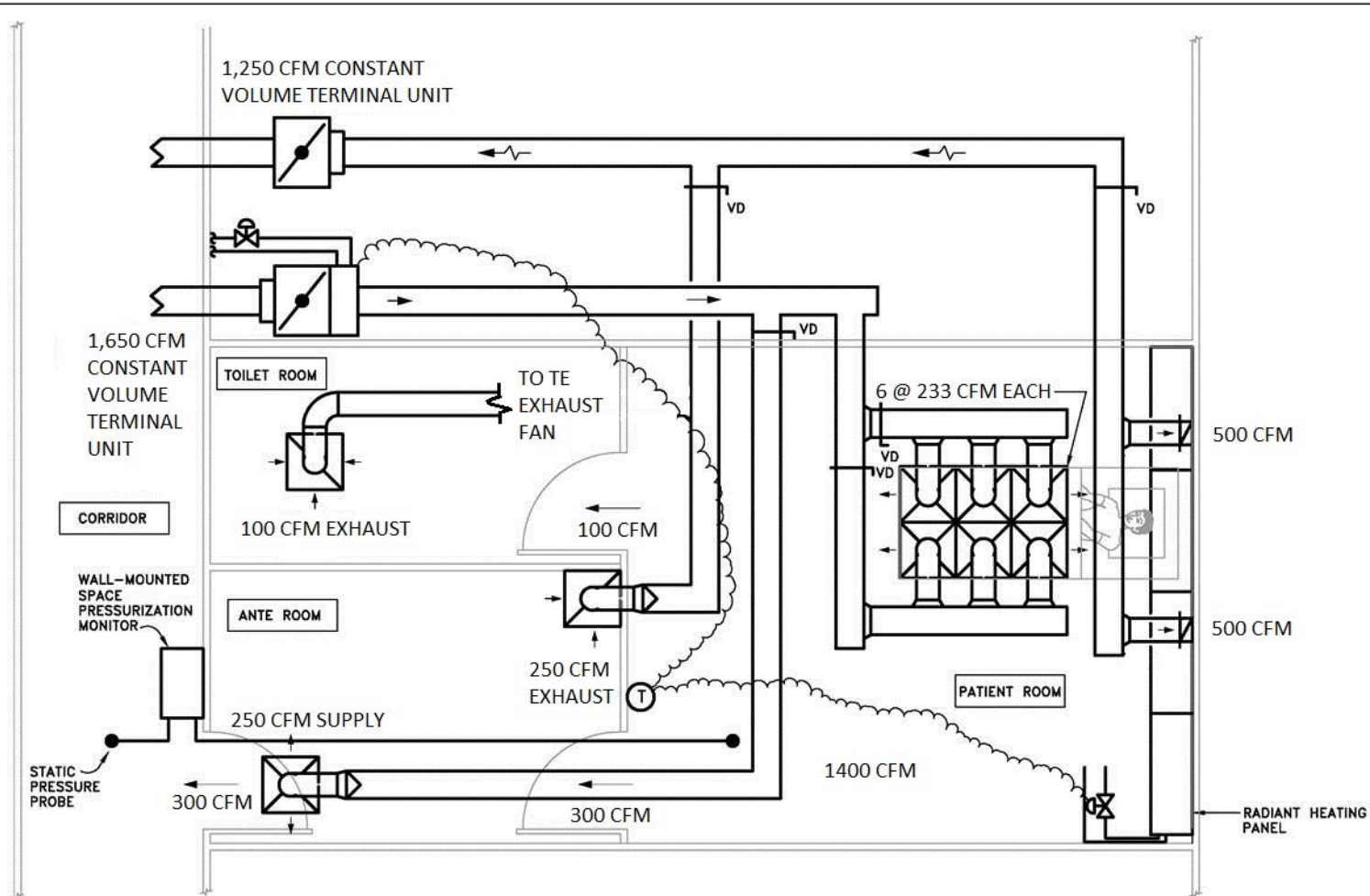
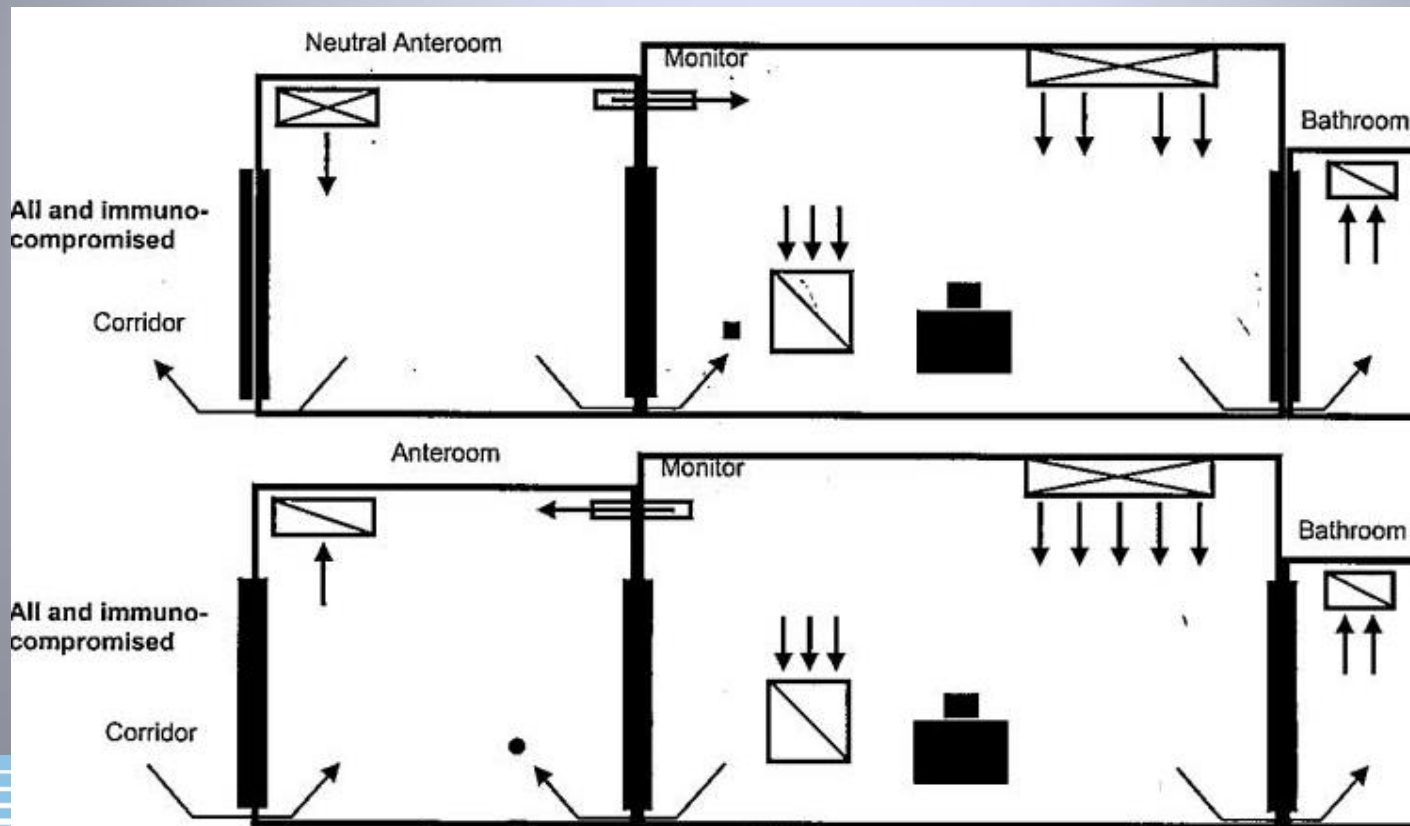


FIGURE 2. PROTECTIVE ISOLATION ROOM PRESSURIZATION/AIR BALANCE DIAGRAM  
AIRFLOW RATES SHOWN ARE FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY - CALCULATE FOR EACH ROOM

# Combination Airborne Infectious Isolation/Protective Environment Rooms

- For immune suppressed patients with a airborne infectious disease
- CDC and ASHRAE 170 allow two options: positive or negative ante room



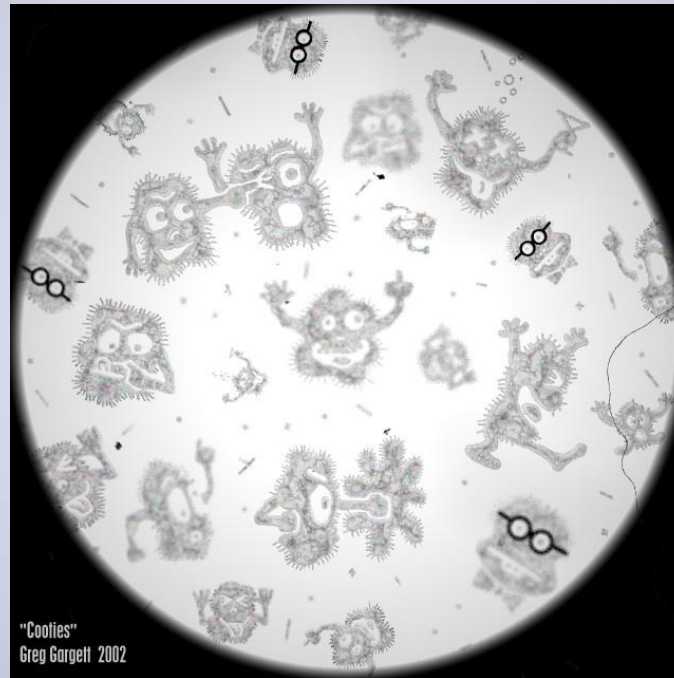
# Combination Airborne Infectious Isolation/Protective Environment Rooms

---

- PE requirements govern supply diffuser and exhaust grille locations:
  - ASHRAE Standard 170 “Supply diffusers shall be above the patient bed.
  - ASHRAE Standard 170 “Return/exhaust grilles shall be located near the patient door.”
- Two permanently installed monitoring devices are required
  - One between the AI/PE room and the ante room
  - One between the ante room and the corridor

---

# Thank You



# Questions?

---