
OPERATING ROOM POLICY AND PROCEDURE

NO: OR-IC 3.03

APPROVAL DATE: October 10, 2019

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 10, 2019

SUBJECT: Surgical Services Traffic Flow and Surgical Attire Infection Control Practices

OBJECTIVE

To assure implementation of approved infection control practice.

DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions apply:

Health Care Facility: UIH hospital and clinics including connecting bridges.

Surgical attire: Nonsterile apparel designated for the perioperative practice setting.

Clean cover apparel: Clean protective clothing worn over surgical attire.

AORN: Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses.

Restricted area: Includes the Operating Room suites, including all interior rooms and is accessible only from a semi-restricted area.

Semi-restricted area: Includes the peripheral support areas of the surgical suite and has storage areas for sterile and clean supplies, work areas for storage and corridors leading to the restricted areas of the surgical suite.

Hospital Laundered Scrubs: Scrub wear provided and distributed by the hospital Materials Management Linen Department.

- A dedicated cobalt blue color scrubs identified with the UI Health logo are worn by all staff in the restricted areas.
- A dedicated misty green color scrubs are worn by all staff in the PACU and Hospital Preoperative Department.

Home Laundered Apparel: Clothing not distributed by the Material Management Linen Department. Clothing owned by the employee including cloth skull caps, shirts worn under surgical attire or cover apparel.

- Wash home laundered clothes in hot water.
- Tumble dry home laundered clothes for at least 30 minutes.

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Standard precautions: A group of infection prevention practices that apply to all patients regardless of knowledge of infection status. Standard precautions are based on the principle that all blood, body fluids, secretions, mucous membranes, non-intact skin and excretions (except sweat) may contain transmissible infectious agents.

Sterile field: The area surrounding the site of the incision, or the site of introduction of an instrument into a body orifice that has been prepared for an invasive procedure. The area includes all working areas, furniture, and equipment covered with sterile drapes and drape accessories and all personnel in sterile attire.

POLICY

Sanitation procedures and activities which confine, contain, and minimize sources of infection will be consistently implemented according to hospital and infection control policies and procedures.

1. The department of nursing policy and procedure, and the administrative and infection control policy and procedure are maintained and accessible on the Intranet. The standardized policies relating to infection control are consistently implemented.
2. Standard precautions recommended by the Center for Disease Control are enforced.
3. Standards and recommended practices and guidelines of AORN are utilized in conjunction with evidence based practice literature.
4. Open communication with the hospital Infection Control Department is maintained.
5. The perioperative department area is identified by proper signage indicating restricted and semi-restricted areas. Entrance to the surgical suite is restricted to authorized individuals.

PROCEDURE

1. Outside bags/backpacks in the restricted areas of the operating room suite should be kept to a minimum and must be contained in a plastic bag provided at the OR control desk.
2. The staff locker rooms serve as the transition area for individuals to change from street clothes to surgical attire.
3. Traffic flow is to be limited within the surgical suite. All doors to the operating room suite should be closed at all times except for movement of patient and equipment.
4. Visitors or observers are not permitted in the operating rooms without the permission of the attending physician, the charge nurse, or designee who will make arrangements for appropriate attire.

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SURGICAL ATTIRE:

- 1) All personnel in restricted areas.
 - a) Perioperative staff wears hospital provided surgical scrubs. Scrubs will be changed when wet or soiled. Restricted scrubs (cobalt blue) are removed before going outside, leaving the health care facility, or entering below ground tunnel system.
 - b) When leaving the perioperative department, clean cover apparel should be worn over surgical scrubs. Shoe covers are removed. Head covering removal is optional and can be worn until the end of the day in the health care facility.
 - I. No cover gown is required when transferring a patient to a critical care area or leaving the department to respond to a life threatening emergency or safety hazard.
 - c) Shoes will be clean, with closed toes to prevent injury and protect from spills. Shoe covers are provided when spill or splashing is anticipated.
 - d) Hospital laundered warming jackets are provided and should be worn by non-scrubbed personnel during performance of preoperative patient skin antisepsis. Jackets should be removed if contaminated with blood or body fluids.
 - e) Surgical mask must be worn when opening sterile supplies and when surgery is being performed. Masks are to be properly fastened and of proper fit (fitting angles over the nose and mouth). Masks are not to be worn dangling around the neck. Masks are to be discarded at the end of the case.
 - f) If a beard cannot be contained within a surgical mask, an additional beard cover must be worn when entering the operating room suites and while preparing and packaging items in the clean assembly section of the sterile processing area.
 - g) Head covering options are:
 - Disposable bouffant/skull caps.
 - Clean, daily laundered reusable skull caps.
 - Both can be kept on all day within the healthcare facility.
 - h) A clean, nonlinting, daily laundered, short sleeve shirt may be worn under the surgical attire.

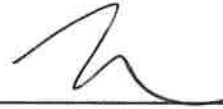
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- h) A clean, nonlinting, daily laundered, short sleeve shirt may be worn under the surgical attire.
 - i) Jewelry must be confined within surgical attire; watches are permitted for non-scrubbed personnel.
 - j) Fingernails must be kept short, clean, and healthy. No artificial nails or nail extenders are to be worn, refer to hospital policy IC 1.03.
 - k) Patients wear hospital gown and bouffant cap. Exceptions to this policy will be made by the perioperative management team.
 - l) Authorized individuals in street clothes/uniforms (prison guards, service workers, parents) and employees from other departments, will be provided a bunny suit or surgical scrubs and bouffant cap. Individuals wearing bunny suits must leave the O.R. when surgery is being performed.
 - m) The OR charge nurse or designee is authorized to request any person not observing these rules to leave the suite.
- 2) Scrubbed personnel during surgical procedures:
- a) Sterile scrub gowns and gloves are worn and are discarded in the OR suite before leaving the suite.
 - b) Protective eyewear is to be worn during procedure and patient care activities that are likely to generate splashes or spray of blood, bodily fluids, secretions or excretions and debris.
 - c) Jewelry must be removed.

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Date 10/10/19

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References

1. University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics Management Policy and Procedure. Authorization, Use and Distribution of Scrub and Lab Coat Apparel. LD 3.08.
2. University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics Management Policy and Procedure. Hand and Nail Hygiene. IC 1.03.
3. University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics Management Policy and Procedure. Standard and Transmission Based Precautions/Use of Personal Protective Equipment. IC 2.02.
4. Association of perioperative Registered Nurses. Guidelines for Perioperative Practice. Surgical Attire. 2019.
5. Kaplan, C., Mendiola, R., Ndjatou, V., Chapnick, E., & Mindoff, H.(2003). The role of covering gowns in reducing rates of bacterial contamination of scrub suits. *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*, 188(5), pp1154-1154.

Rescission Date

June 2016
June 2013
August 2012
February 2012
June 2010

Policy Owner- Robin Garrett, Senior Director, Perioperative Services.