

HIGH DESERT HEALTH SYSTEM AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER

SUBJECT: V-128 TYMPANIC TEMPERATURE	POLICY #: 1247
	VERSION: 1
APPROVED BY: ASC Approvers	
DATE APPROVED: 06/28/2016	

PURPOSE: To describe the steps to be taken when monitoring patient's temperature using the tympanic thermometer.

POLICY: The Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) nursing staff will follow the steps outlined below in order to be able to correctly obtain a tympanic temperature on patients.

PROCEDURE:

1. Perform proper hand hygiene.
2. Explain the procedure to the patient if awake and alert
3. Remove the thermometer from the re-charger
4. Apply the probe cover while at the patient's bedside
5. Gently place the probe into the patient's ear canal aligning the probe tip toward the patient's opposite ear. Gently apply firm pressure to seal the ear canal from ambient air to get maximum depth
6. Press and release the temperature switch
7. Wait for the green light to appear – the digital readout is the patient temperature
8. Record the temperature on the applicable patient's medical record form
9. Pull the probe cover off and place into the waste receptacle
10. Replace the probe into the re-charger
11. Refer to the IVAC Directions for User Book, for any problems

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