



Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center  
DEPARTMENT OF NURSING  
CLINICAL  
POLICY AND PROCEDURE

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**SUBJECT:** REGLOVING DURING SURGICAL  
PROCEDURE

**Policy No.:** OR036  
**Effective Date:** 02/2016  
**Page:** 1 of 2

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**Policy Statement:** Gowns and gloves will be removed and replaced according to established guidelines.

**Purpose of Procedure:** To maintain sterility

**Performed By:** R.N., Surgical Technician, Physicians Assistant

**Procedural Steps:**

**Option I: Removing Gown and Gloves:**

1. The front tie is untied by the scrubbed person.
2. The back neck and waist tie is released by the circulator.
3. The gown is removed by the circulator by grasping the gown at the shoulders and pulling it over the gloved hands.  
**KEY POINT:** At this time, the gown is being turned inside out to keep from touching any contaminants.
4. The circulator folds the gown in such a fashion that the contaminated surface is inside.  
**KEY POINT:** This is done to prevent the air currents from absorbing the contaminants.
5. The gown is rolled and placed in the red trash bag.  
**KEY POINT:** Rolling the gown ensures that any gross contamination will stay in the trash bag, if bag becomes perforated.
6. The circulator then grasps the cuff of the glove on the outside being careful not to touch the scrubbed person's skin and pulls the glove off, inside out. Circulator should wear disposable gloves when removing dirty gloves.  
**KEY POINT:** If the gloves are removed prior to the gown, the contaminated gown will be pulled over the bare hands and the person must re-scrub.
7. Repeat step 6 with other hand.
8. Use "Gown and Gloving Procedure," already established.

**Option II: Assist Gloving**

1. The circulator grasps the cuff of the contaminated glove on the outside being careful not to touch the gown and pulls the glove off inside out.
2. A scrubbed member of the team will hold the appropriate glove positioned with the palmar surface of the glove toward the ungloved member of the team.
3. The glove is stretched to open the glove.
4. The sterile member of the team holds his/her thumbs out.  
**KEY POINT:** This is done to protect the person from coming in contact with the bare skin. The skin is surgically clean, not sterile
5. The ungloved person will slide his or her hand into the glove.
6. The person gloving will exert firm upward pressure, making certain the hand does not go below the waist.  
**KEY POINT:** Below the waist is considered unsterile.
7. The glove cuff is pulled over the gown cuff.  
**KEY POINT:** The stockinette cuff of the gown is considered contaminated. The stockinette cuff is a moisture collection area and not an effective microbial barrier. The cuff should ALWAYS be considered contaminated once gloves are worn.

**Option III: Open Glove Method:**

1. Pick up the right glove by placing the left thumb and forefinger on the fold of the averted cuff--the glove should be grasped in line with its palm. The glove cuff is left unfolded at this time.  
**KEY POINT:** The hands must not come in contact with the exterior of the sterile gloves.
2. Position the right fingers and using only the thumb and forefinger pull the glove onto the hand taking care that the cuff does not roll. After the right hand is in the glove, **DO NOT ADJUST THE CUFF**, but allow it to remain in its averted state.
3. Slide the gloved fingers (not thumb) under the palmar surface of the left glove cuff and guide the left hand into glove.
4. Spread the fingers while they are under the cuff, rotate the left wrist and with the right fingers draw the cuff up and over the stockinette cuff of the gown.
5. Slide the gloved left fingers under the right cuff and draw the cuff up over the stockinette cuff.
6. Adjust both cuffs with gloved hands manipulating only the outside (sterile side) of the cuffs.

**KEY POINT:** Scrubbed team member should wear two pair of surgical gloves, one over the other. This reduce perforation to the inner glove and reduces exposure to infectious materials.

Gloves are to be removed after each procedure and discarded in a designated container before the individual leaves the Operating Room.

Hand hygiene must be performed after the removal of gloves.

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**Reviewed by:** Jo-Ann Abesamis, RN, BSN

**References:**

Guidelines for Perioperative Practice 2020-Edition  
Essentials of Perioperative Nursing, Fifth Edition

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02/16 – Reviewed

10/18 – Revised

02/20 – Reviewed