



**PROCEDURE FOR MAINTAINING SUCTION
MACHINE**

Policy No.: 603
Revised: August 2021
Supersedes: August 2018
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Purpose: To describe procedure for maintaining suction equipment in the therapy treatment areas.

I. SUPPLIES

- A. Disposable sterile catheters and collecting tubing
- B. Collection device (disposable suction canister)
- C. Sodium chloride solution (normal saline 0.9%). Each bottle is for one session use only. Discard the unused portion once session is completed.
- D. Disposable gloves (to be worn on both hands)
- E. Appropriate PPE
- F. Paper cups

II. CARE OF EQUIPMENT

- A. Perform appropriate hand hygiene before and after patient contact and use appropriate isolation precautions including donning appropriate PPE.
- B. Use patient's bedside suction unit when possible.
- C. Empty bedside or portable suction canisters in flushing apparatus and discard canister in trash or follow guidelines for Biohazard waste materials per Admin Policy A405 and IC202E
- D. Replace catheter and connecting tubing after each patient use.
- E. Replace portable suction collection canisters after each use.
- G. Check pressure range:
 - Portable Suction Machines
 - 1. Infants 2-3 inches mercury

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2. Children 3-4 inches mercury
3. Adults 3-5 inches mercury

H. Refer to "Suctioning Techniques: Tracheostomy and Endotracheal Tubes " per the Department of Nursing Clinical Policy and Procedure C142

III. AS NEEDED

- A. Report any malfunction to supervisor and red tag the machine and remove from patient treatment area.
- B. Paper cups are ordered from Receiving and delivered by Receiving.
- C. Obtain supplies from Central Service, as needed.


Director, Physical Therapy Department

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