

RANCHO LOS AMIGOS NATIONAL REHABILITATION CENTER

Infection Prevention and Control

SUBJECT: WASHER / DRYER USE

Policy No.: IC107
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Washing Machines are disinfected to decrease the risk of hospital acquired infections. Each wash is documented on a log.

Policy

1. The therapy washers and dryers will only be used for Rancho Inpatients in a therapy program.
2. The room with the community washer and dryer will be locked when staff are not directly supervising the use of the washer and dryer.
3. The logs and key will be kept at the designated location (JPI 1st floor Security Station).
4. Only one patient's laundry is washed/dried at a time.

Procedure

1. Staff will sign out the key from the designated location and the staff member's name and the patient's MRUN will be entered on the log.
2. Ensure that patient removes the clothing from both machines after the washer cycle and the dryer cycle are complete.
NOTE: Rancho is not responsible for items left in the washer, dryer or room.
3. Run an empty load of wash with 1 ounce of bleach after the load for each patient use and document the "bleach run" on the log.
4. Ensure that the door to the room is locked when they exit the room.
5. Return and sign in the key to designated location.
6. Report any issues/problems to supervisor.
7. Environmental Services staff will clean the machines and the room weekly and as needed.
8. Weekly inspection of the machines and the room will be done for cleanliness.

References: Environmental Services Policy – Washer/Dryer #III – 043
Manufacturer's Guidelines