

HIGH DESERT HEALTH SYSTEM AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER

SUBJECT: II-131 TEMPERATURE & HUMIDITY CONTROL IN THE OPERATING ROOMS	POLICY #: 1061
	VERSION: 1
APPROVED BY: Aram. Messerlian (CHIEF PHYSICIAN I ANESTHESIOLOGY), Beryl Brooks (ADMR, COMP AMB HEALTH CARE CENTER), Leila Adriano (NURSE MANAGER)	
DATE APPROVED: 06/28/2016	

PURPOSE: To ensure that the temperature and humidity of the Operating Rooms (OR), in the Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC), are tracked and maintained within recommended ranges.

POLICY: The temperature of all ORs shall be maintained between 68 and 73 degrees Fahrenheit (20 – 23 degrees Celsius).

The humidity of all ORs shall be maintained between 30 to 60%.

PROCEDURE:

1. Temperature and humidity in the ORs must be maintained within the above-stated standards to inhibit microbial growth, reduce risk of infection, control odor and promote patient comfort.
2. At the beginning of each work day, temperature and humidity for each OR suite will be checked by nursing staff and the results will be kept in the OR Temperature/Humidity book, housed in the Medication Room.
3. When temperature and/or humidity are recorded out of range, the High Desert Regional Health Center (HDRHC) Facilities Department will be notified.
4. Upon notification of out of range temperature and/or humidity readings, HDRHC Facilities will dispatch staff to adjust room temperatures and recheck monitoring with ASC nursing staff.
5. If the humidity and temperature levels are outside of the parameters, surgery will be held until corrected. If unable to correct, the procedure will be cancelled or moved to another OR.

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REFERENCES: Manual of Operating Room Management
 AORN Standards and Recommended Practices
 California Mechanical Code 315.3.1
 CMS standard 416.44(a)

Original Date: 02/14/2008
Reviewed: 07/18/2017
Next Review Date: 10/18/2019
Previous Review Dates: 02/14/08; 06/04/14
Previous Revise Dates: 02/14/08; 11/05/13; 06/09/14; 07/18/17