

HIGH DESERT HEALTH SYSTEM AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER

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| SUBJECT: XIII-136 SURGICAL CLIPPERS | POLICY #: 1094 |
| | VERSION: 1 |
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| DATE APPROVED: 08/10/2018 | |

PURPOSE: To provide guidelines for hair removal at the surgical site.

POLICY: In the Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC), hair removal at the surgical site will be performed using surgical clippers.

PROCEDURE:

- A. Nursing will assess the surgical site prior to skin preparation. Presence of excessive hair that may interfere with the surgical procedure should be identified.
- B. If the presence of hair will interfere with the surgical procedure and removal is in the best interest of the patient, hair removal will be performed as close to the time of surgery as possible.
- C. Hair removal will be performed in a manner that preserves skin integrity.
- D. When hair removal is necessary, a battery-operated powered surgical clipper with a disposable head will be used.
- E. Use of the 3M Surgical Clipper:

1. Attach: After removing the backing from the blade packaging, hold the clipper handle at a 45-degree angle and snap on a single- use blade.
2. Push: Position blade at 15 to 30 degrees to skin surface. Gently push the clipper forward across the patient's skin, clipping "against the grain" of hair.

-OR-

3. Pull: Rotate blade 180 degrees and position 15 to 30 degrees to skin surface. Gently pull toward you or "rake" the clipper gently across the patient's skin.
4. Do not use excessive pressure to push the clipper down on the patient's skin.

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5. Let the clipper glide across the skin surface.
6. Remove: Holding at a 45-degree angle to the clipper, "pop off" used blade into a sharps waste receptacle.
7. Use a new blade for each patient.

F. Cleaning the 3M Surgical Clipper:

Wipe: With the clipper in the "off" position and the blade already removed, wipe clipper handle with the approved disinfectant after each use and allow to air dry (requires 2-3 minutes contact time for HIV and HBV disinfection).

Note: Do not immerse in water

G. Storage of the 3M Surgical Clipper

When not in use, store clipper handle in "off" position in charger. Yellow light indicates charging mode. An 8-hour recharge provides approximately 60 minutes of run time. Charging more than 8 hours will not result in longer run time.

REFERENCES:

- A. AORN Standards, Recommended Practices and Guidelines 2016
- B. Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology, Guidelines for Prevention of Surgical Site Infection
- C. 3M Surgical Clipper, Product Guideline
- D. Ambulatory Surgery Principles and Practices, 2012

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