



# Department of Facilities POLICY AND PROCEDURE

POLICY NUMBER: 515  
VERSION: 2

## **SUBJECT: HVAC INFECTION CONTROL POLICY**

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### **POLICY:**

The Refrigeration shop will perform scheduled and unscheduled maintenance on air conditioning systems and other equipment in order to help prevent the growth of infectious agents in these systems/equipment. This work shall be performed in a manner that will protect the health of employees and patients, following all Infection Control Guidelines.

### **PURPOSE:**

To help prevent the growth of infections agents in the HVAC systems and sterilization equipment.

### **PROCEDURE:**

Prior to performing any of the work below, the technician will:

1. Notify the department Head of the affected area and the Facilities Manager if there is to be a shutdown of any piece of equipment.
2. Schedule any equipment shutdown with the department head as to not disrupt their daily operations.
3. All work will be done in accordance with The High Desert Health Systems Infection Control Policy.

### **MED REFRIGERATORS:**

All med refrigerators will be checked for operation and cleanliness on a monthly basis, and so logged by our Preventative Maintenance (P.M.) log, which is kept in the Facilities Office. All work will be done as per the manufactures specifications and the preventative maintenance program.

### **A/C UNITS:**

All units are cleaned, and all filters and ultra violet (UV) lights are changed in accord with the Preventive Maintenance Program and ASHRAE standards. UV lights and 95% final filters are to be changed annually or when static pressure is above the manufactures specifications. A/C units are cleaned regularly to prevent the growth of bacteria and algae.

### **COOLING TOWERS:**

Cooling towers are cleaned, chemically treated, and the water is tested in accord with the frequencies defined in the Preventive Maintenance Program and ASHRAE standards and manufactures specifications.

### **ICE MACHINES:**

Ice Machines are cleaned and checked regularly for proper operation and cleanliness. Employees are instructed on cleanliness to insure product quality. All work will be done as per the manufactures specifications and the preventative maintenance program.

**HUMIDIFIERS:**

Humidifiers are to be checked regularly, for proper operation and leaks, as per manufactures specifications and the preventative maintenance program.

**EMPLOYEE SAFETY:**

The risk to employees changing filters is moderate; therefore, they are to use appropriate protective wear while handling dirty filters.

**PATIENT SAFETY:**

Prior to working on HVAC systems, workers shall take precautions to prevent dust and dirt from contaminating the system.

Approved By: Anthony Corliss (MANAGER I, FACILITIES OPERATIONS AND CRAFTS)	
Date: 04/11/2016	Original Date: 01/04/1994
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Supersedes:
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