



Department of Nursing POLICY AND PROCEDURE

POLICY NUMBER: 255
VERSION: 1

SUBJECT: DRESS CODE

PURPOSE: To describe acceptable work attire for the Nursing Department personnel who provide direct patient care.

POLICY: Nursing Services Personnel will maintain a professional appearance inclusive of appropriate dress attire at all times when in the workplace.

POLICY STATEMENTS:

Clinical Staff

1. Color coordinated scrub sets with solid color bottoms: printed scrub tops and warm up jackets are permitted if the design is professional and if the primary color of the scrub top/jacket is the same color as the scrub pants. Scrub warm up jackets in white or of the same solid color as the scrub uniform may be worn. Solid color scrub dresses are also permissible.
2. White nursing uniform: pantsuit or white scrub dress, white pants/skirt with solid color or design scrub top may be worn.
3. Dress hems shall be no more than two inches above the knee.
4. Shoes must be clean, white, black, or neutral colored, with closed toe and heel, clean laces, and no high-tops.
5. White or skin-colored hose shall be worn with dresses or skirts.
6. Identification badges must be worn at all times while on County premises. The badge must be worn on the upper chest area with the name clearly visible.
7. Hair must be clean, well groomed, and worn in such a manner that it will not interfere with patient care.
8. Facial hair must be trimmed and kept neat.
9. Wedding bands/rings only may be worn; however, rings with stones are discouraged. Dangling earrings, necklaces, or bracelets are not acceptable.
10. Direct patient care staff and health care workers who have contact with patient supplies, equipment, and food are prohibited from wearing artificial fingernails and long natural nails. Natural nails must be clean, with tips less than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch beyond the tip of the finger. If fingernail polish is worn, it must be in good condition, free of chips and preferably clear in color.

11. **Unacceptable attire includes the following:**
 - a. Denim, or neon color scrubs.
 - b. Jeans, sweat pants, stretch pants, stirrup pants, leggings, shorts, Capri or crop pants.
 - c. T-shirts, tank tops, tube tops, halter tops or sweat shirts.
 - d. Any attire that provides visibility of underwear and/or cleavage.

12. Personnel attired inappropriately will be counseled by management. At the discretion of the Nurse Manager or Supervisor, the employee shall be directed to return home to change clothing. Absent (“A”) time shall be given to any employee required to return home due to inappropriate attire.

Clerical Staff

1. Business or business casual attire.
2. Unacceptable attire includes the following:
 - a. Jeans, leggings, shorts, or sweat pants.
 - b. T-shirts, tank tops, tube tops, halter tops or sweat shirts.
 - c. Any attire that provides visibility of underwear, cleavage or midriff.

Management Staff

1. Business attire; white lab jacket to be worn while in clinical areas.
2. Clinical nursing attire as explained above.

REFERENCES:

Los Angeles County - Department of Health Service Policy No. 392.3 – Hand Hygiene in Health Care Settings, 2009.

[DHS 706.1 - Business Office Dress Policy](#)

Approved By: Susan Knapp (CHIEF NURSING OFFICER I)	
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