



Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

OPERATING ROOM

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

SUBJECT: SURGICAL ATTIRE

Policy No.: OR91
Supersedes: ALL
Reviewed Date: 02/2016
Page: 1 of 2

Policy Statement: Clean surgical attire should be worn in semi-restricted and restricted perioperative settings.

Purpose of Procedure: Wearing clean surgical attire may reduce microorganisms present in the perioperative setting.

Procedural Steps:

1. All persons who enter the semi-restricted and restricted areas of the surgical suite are in attire intended for use only within the surgical suite.
 - Scrub attire will be laundered between wearing.
 - Scrub attire will be changed when visibly soiled or wet.
 - Facility approved, clean and freshly laundered surgical attire will be donned in a designated area of the facility
 - Providers, staff, physicians and others who perform or assist with surgical procedures will wear facility-provided scrubs, they may not wear their own personal or any home laundered scrub apparel in the surgical procedure area.
 - Facility provided scrub apparel should remain on the facility campus unless otherwise authorized by the unit manager. They must be donned after arrival to the department and removed prior to leaving the facility.

KEY POINT: See Operating Room Policy & Procedure #102 for map and definition of restricted and unrestricted areas.

2. Surgical attire will consist of:
 - Pants
 - Shirt
 - Jacket
 - Hat
 - shoe covers (optional) if worn, they are changed whenever they become torn, wet or soiled.
3. All possible head and facial hair, including sideburns and neckline should be covered when in the semi-restricted and restricted areas of the surgical suite.

KEY POINT: The surgical hat or hood should be clean, free of lint and should confine the hair.
4. All persons entering an OR Room will wear masks.

KEY POINT: Surgical masks should be worn at all times in the OR room. Masks will be high filtration and cover both mouth and nose and be secured in a manner to prevent venting. Masks are removed and discarded after departure from an OR room.
5. All nonscrubbed personnel should wear a freshly laundered or single-use long-sleeved warm-up jacket snapped closed with the cuffs down to the wrists. Critical thinking should be used during patient activities, such as prepping, to minimize the potential risk of contamination. This includes rolling or pushing up sleeves, tying or tucking back the bottom of the cover jacket or, in some cases, removing the cover jacket during these activities.

6. Other garments should be contained completely within or covered by the surgical attire. Undergarments, such as T-shirts with a V-neck, which can be contained underneath the scrub top may be worn.
7. Jewelry must be removed or confined within the scrub uniform.
KEY POINT: All jewelry will be removed from hands and arms of scrub personnel. No jewelry with sharp edges or items that dangle may be worn.
8. Protective barriers (gowns, gloves, face shields, eye protection, shoe covers, masks) must be made available to reduce the risk of exposure to potentially infectious materials. These must be worn when contact with body fluids that cannot be avoided, or when large volumes of irrigation are used.

The following equipment is some of the barriers available for staff to use:

a. Protective eyewear or face shields

KEY POINT: These should be worn whenever activity could place a risk for a splash to the face or eyes. These should be cleaned or discarded if contaminated.

b. Fluid resistant gowns

c. Shoe covers

d. Surgical Hood system

KEY POINT: Must be worn for total joint surgery

7. Additional protective equipment to avoid radiation exposure includes radiation shields and aprons.
-

REVISED BY: Wilda Tafoya, BSN, RN, CNOR

REFERENCES: Guidelines for Perioperative Practice 2015 Edition
Essentials of Perioperative Nursing, Fifth Edition
AORN Journal Implementation Guide, Attire 2016

05/06 – Revised
08/09 – Revised
10/12 – Revised
02/16 – Reviewed
08/17 – Revised

OR91