



Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

OPERATING ROOM

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION OF STERILE SUPPLIES

Policy No.: OR105
Supersedes: ALL
Reviewed Date: 01/16
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Policy Statement: All sterile supplies integrity will be maintained during transportation to the Operating Room.

Performed by: Central Supply Personnel, Operating Room Staff

Policy Guidelines:

1. A covered sterile supplies cart is utilized to deliver clean and sterile supplies to the Operating Room.
Key Point: Cart must be covered at all times while moving through hallways. The cover must be removed and discarded, prior to entering the surgical suite.
2. The employee assigned to the sterile room will check each package to determine that the package has been subjected to the requirements for sterilization as shown by the indicator tape.
3. Each package is examined for package integrity and moisture.
Key Point: Any torn or moist/wet packages must be reprocessed. They are not sterile.
4. Rotate all sterile supplies by:
 - a. Replacing new supplies to the rear of the shelf and moving previous supplies to the front for use first.
 - b. Replacing new supplies to the left and moving previous supplies to the right for use first.
- c. Replacing new supplies on the bottom and moving previous supplies to the top for use first.
Key Point: All outdated items are to be discarded as the new supplies are placed on the shelf.
5. If sterile supplies are in a container, place the newest container under the oldest items.

Revised by: Ricardo Toscana, RN

References:

Guidelines for Perioperative Practice 2015 Edition
Essentials of Perioperative Nursing, Fifth Edition

05/06 – Reviewed
08/09 - Reviewed
10/12 - Reviewed
01/16 - Reviewed