



Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

POST-ANESTHESIA RECOVERY ROOM

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

SUBJECT: PROCEDURE FOR OPENING AND CLOSING THE PACU

Policy No.: PACU10

Supersedes: ALL
Revised Date: 03/2018
Page: 1 of 2

Purpose of Procedure: To outline procedures to open and close the PACU.

Performed By: RN, NA

Procedural Steps to Open PACU:

1. Obtain PACU lock box keys from ICU and unlock all doors.
2. Obtain other keys from lock box to open refrigerator and cabinets.
3. Check temperature in medication refrigerator and document on refrigerator log (See Nursing Policy #C154 - Refrigerator Maintenance).
4. Turn on the individual cardiac monitors.
5. Check for any changes in OR schedule. Make necessary revisions on the PACU schedule.
6. Prepare the patient area for incoming patients with oxygen, suction equipment and supplies.
KEY POINT: Call Respiratory department to deliver mist tent for pediatric patients, if applicable.
7. Check crash cart, portable defibrillator, and other emergency equipment for proper operation (See Nursing Policy #C112 - Routine Cleaning and Crash Cart Re-Supply System).
8. Perform daily quality control for the Blood Glucose Meter (See Nursing Policy C109.2). See manufacturer's guide lines.
9. Obtain ICU beds as needed.
10. Obtain PCA pumps as needed, if they aren't any available.
11. The nurse assigned is responsible for conducting a daily check for outdated sterile items in the PACU. (Refer to OR policy and procedure on monitoring sterile supplies).

Procedural Steps to Close PACU:

1. Lock all cabinets and medication refrigerator.
2. Discard all used oxygen humidifiers and used suction canisters.

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 2018
APPROVED BY: Management Council

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Signature(s) on File.

3. Lock all keys in designated area
4. Verify that all patient information is completed in the logbook, including the surgical procedure, arrival and transfer time, surgeon, anesthetic, and anesthesiologist discharging the patient from the PACU.
5. Turn off the cardiac monitors and lights.
6. Lock the doors connecting PACU to the corridor.

Revised By Wilda Tafoya, RN, BSN

Revised – 03/2018