

Hamilton Health Sciences	Departmental Manual
Posting Date: 2008-02-12 Posting History Dates: 1999-11-03, 2001-09-05, 2006-12-07; 2008-02-12	
<i>Title:</i> PERI - Surgical Attire Policy	

Applies to: All HHS staff including Medical, Dental and Midwifery staff, Hospital Affiliates (Contract staff, volunteers, learners) working in the Operating Rooms (OR).

1.0 Purpose & Goals Description

To provide a policy for surgical attire that prevents the spread and/or cross contamination of infection from staff to patient

2.0 Equipment

- gown
- gloves
- shoe covers
- eye protection
- masks
- hair covering
- jackets

3.0 Policy Statements

3.1 Operating Room Attire

- 3.1.1 The operating room designated attire consists of a two piece pantsuit. The scrub suit top is to be tucked into the pants or be close fitting. All personnel are to wear I.D. tags.
- 3.1.2 The scrub cap or hood is to be clean, freshly laundered or disposable. Women wearing special headscarves are to change to a freshly laundered scarf that has not been worn outside the hospital, before entering the OR.
- 3.1.3 Hospital and /or personal scrub attire are not to be worn off hospital property.
- 3.1.4 Operating room attire must be changed/laundered daily or when it becomes wet or soiled.
- 3.1.5 Reusable surgical attire i.e. scrub suits, gowns, jackets are to placed in an appropriate container for laundering.
- 3.1.6 If personal attire is worn, it is to be laundered in the home laundry and changed daily.
- 3.1.7 T-shirts /undershirts must have short sleeves and be freshly laundered when worn under green scrubs.

3.2 Head and Facial Hair

- 3.2.1 All head and facial hair, including sideburns and neckline, is to be covered before entering the semi-restricted area. Disposable covering is preferred, but a cloth cap is permissible if it is freshly laundered and changed daily.

3.3 Jackets

- 3.3.1 Jackets are to be changed and laundered daily and not left hanging in lockers to be worn at another time.
- 3.3.2 Jackets, if worn, are closed to prevent excess air movement and accidental contamination of the established sterile field during movement within a restricted area.

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3.4 Personal Protective Equipment

- 3.4.1 A high filtration mask, covering both nose and mouth, is worn at all times while in the operating room suite while surgery is in progress. **Masks must be changed between surgical procedures.** Masks are removed by the strings and properly discarded before leaving the suite. After removal of mask, hands are washed.
- 3.4.2 Gloves (sterile/non-sterile) are changed between patient contacts. New sterile gloves are applied for each procedure or if contaminated or ripped. After removal of gloves, hands are washed.
- 3.4.3 Protective Eyewear is to be worn by all scrubbed personnel. Eyewear/face shields are to be disposed of or decontaminated after each case or when soiled.

3.5 Jewelry

- 3.5.1 Jewelry is to be removed or confined within surgical attire. Plain rings are allowed when not scrubbed. Earrings are to be small (i.e. stud earrings) and totally contained within the cap or hood.

3.6 Nails

- 3.6.1 Nails must be short, clean and well maintained. Nail polish that has been freshly applied may be worn. Artificial nails or synthetic additives are not to be worn. Fungal growth occurs because moisture becomes trapped between natural and artificial nail.

3.7 Footwear

- 3.7.1 Shoe covers are to be worn when blood and body fluid splashes are anticipated. Shoe covers are to be changed if soiled or when leaving the OR.

3.8 Total Joint Procedures/Major Orthopedic Procedures: Henderson

- 3.8.1 All scrubbed personnel (medical and nursing) must wear exhaust ventilated hood system to provide adequate PPE and to prevent organisms falling from headgear.

3.9 Unrestricted Area

- 3.9.1 Street clothes can be worn in this area as this area provides an access point for patients, staff and materials.

3.10 Semi-restricted area

- 3.10.1 All staff and patients are permitted in this area. Personnel working within this area must wear the designated surgical attire.

3.11 Restricted area

- 3.11.1 Personnel working in this area are to wear the designated surgical attire. This includes a mask when a procedure is being performed. Maximum protection from possible contamination is required.
- 3.11.2 Special circumstances i.e. cover gown or surgical attire are permitted for any member of the Code Blue team required for resuscitation in Labor and Delivery or any OR.

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- 3.11.3 For hospital personnel/visitors/family members for pediatric patients whose presence in the OR will be brief, they may don a one-piece coverall, if available or wear surgical attire including hair covering.

4.0 Definitions

Unrestricted area: permits entry of patients, family, personnel and goods. Street clothes are worn.

Semi-restricted: support area of the surgical suite, which may have storage for clean and/or sterile supplies. Surgical attire is required.

Restricted: includes operating and procedure rooms and surgical attire is required.

5.0 Cross References

Footwear and Personal Protective Equipment Policy

6.0 External References

Gruendemann,B. Mangum,S. (2001). Infection Prevention in Surgical Settings. W.B.Saunders. Toronto

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Phillips,N. (2004) Berry & Kohn's Operating Room Technique. 10th Ed. Mosby. USA

Rothrock,J. (2003) Alexander's Care of The Patient in Surgery. 12th Ed. Mosby. USA

7.0 Developed By/In Consultation with

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