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References:

OR Dress Code, 32.16.01

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PURPOSE:

To outline guidelines and standards related to apparel and personal protective devices (PPE) worn in all areas of the Operating Room and Sterile Processing Departments, as well as Cath Lab if operating room staff are used.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION:

Regulatory agencies require surgical attire worn in the Operating Room and Sterile Processing areas be "freshly-laundered, hospital supplied" scrubs. This allows the facility to maintain known infection control variables to a minimum by monitoring temperature, cycle length, storage, etc. of the laundering process. It also intends to exclude scrubs being stored in personal lockers subject to dust and other contaminants. This infection control/patient safety principle is based on covering skin surfaces that potentially shed skin cells, containing hair/jewelry to prevent inadvertent contamination of a sterile area or wound, minimizing the potential of cross contamination, and providing our patients with an environment that supports their healing. Regulating agencies with influence on this issue include Occupational Safety and Health Agency (OSHA), Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and The Joint Commission (TJC) with supporting research from American Association of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI), Association of peri-Operative Registered Nurses (AORN), and Association of Practitioners of Infection Control (APIC).

POLICY:

KRMC is required to supply freshly laundered, hospital supplied scrubs for those individuals working in departments subject to this standard. Individuals are required to comply with the issues surrounding the standard as well, to include:

- Scrub attire is to be worn in semi-restricted and restricted areas of the department.
- Disposable surgical attire is available, if needed
- Not storing scrubs in locker, unless individually packaged
- Changing scrub attire if soiled, being careful when removing shirts over their heads to prevent contamination
- Staff must change into street clothes prior to leaving each day and not wear scrubs home
- Changing all scrub attire anytime one travels outside the confines of the building or covers with coats, etc that are not freshly laundered, hospital supplied.

- Ensuring clothing worn under scrubs is covered by the scrub fabric and not showing
- Wearing jackets when appropriate ensuring they are closed and not "trailing"

In addition, disposable PPEs are worn to compliment the protective nature of the scrub from exposing the environment, or the patient, to undue bio-burden.

Required PPEs in the OR/SPD include, but are not limited to:

- **Head/Hair/Beard cover** – must contain or cover all hair and head and be disposed of at the end of the work period
 - Bouffant either alone or to cover cloth head cover
 - Surgeon's hood
 - Beards must be contained/covered with a disposable beard cover
- **Jewelry** –
 - Scrubbed persons must remove all jewelry from fingertips to their elbows prior to scrubbing
 - Non-scrubbed persons may wear watches, wedding rings/bands
 - All necklaces must be contained under scrub shirt/jacket
 - Earrings –
 - Posts are recommended
 - If earrings dangle, they must be contained in bouffant
- **Scrub shirt and pants** – changed daily, or as needed, if soiled
- **Jacket** that is snapped to prevent flapping
- **Shoes/Shoe covers** – shoe covers should be donned when gross contamination can be reasonably anticipated.
 - It is recommended to have dedicated shoes for the OR/SPD.
 - Outside shoes have been associated with environmental contamination of the perioperative environment. Shoe covers must be worn over outside shoes.
 - If contaminated or suspected to be contaminated, shoe covers shall be removed upon leaving the OR suite and disposed of in red bag and replaced as appropriate.
 - If shoe covers are worn, they must be discarded daily
- **Hand Hygiene** –
 - A hand wash using soap and water shall be performed by all non-direct caregiver staff upon arrival to the department.
 - Caregivers in the OR shall perform a 3 minute-hand wash using an approved surgical scrub agent at the beginning of their shift according to recommended manufacturer's guidelines.
 - Nails will be maintained in compliance with house-wide policy # 1128 that includes:
 - No artificial nails including, but not limited to, wraps, acrylics, tips, tapes, gel coatings
 - No fingernail polish shall be worn if working in, or having the potential of entering the operating room suites.
 - If non-OR staff enter any semi-restricted or restricted area of the department, they need to perform hand hygiene and don non-sterile gloves until they leave the unit.
 - Hand hygiene as directed by infection control and hospital practice will be employed. Hand hygiene dispensers are available in each suite, halls, selected rooms, etc.
- **Surgical Scrub**
 - A surgical hand scrub shall be performed by sterile, scrubbed personnel prior to donning sterile gown/gloves. The hand scrub will be in accordance with manufacturer's recommendation using either an antimicrobial surgical scrub agent or an alcohol based antiseptic surgical hand rub that has met the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) requirements for surgical hand antisepsis.

- **Face Masks** – Approved face masks will be worn in OR suites any time sterile items are open.
 - A variety of masks are available for individual comfort. Only masks with ties are allowed in the OR.
 - NOTE: Those with ear loops are intended to be procedural and do not have the same filtration properties and will not be allowed in OR.
 - All masks should be applied to "hug" all edges
 - All masks should be removed and disposed of in the red bag at the end of the case
 - Masks shall be removed following each case and not worn outside the 2nd floor department
 - N95 respirator masks are available when needed
- **Eye Protection** – As advised by the CDC, eye protection should be employed when there is a reasonable chance of splash. That is every time a surgical procedure occurs. It is also recommended when handling disinfectants, cleaning rooms, etc.
 - Protection should fit well and not move easily
 - Some masks have shields attached
 - Anti-fog solution is available in the department to apply on glasses
 - Care of eye protection such as glasses, loops, etc. is the responsibility of the individual
 - A hand held spigot eye wash station is located in the soiled utility
- **Identification Badges** – All identification badges will be worn in accordance with KRMC policies and procedures and easily visible

Attachments:

No Attachments

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