


Name of Policy: <u>Observers in the Operating Room & Traffic Patterns in the Surgical Suite</u> Policy Number: 3364-124-06 Department: Nursing Service/Operating Room Approving Officer: Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) Responsible Agent: Chief Nursing Officer Scope: Operating Room/Perioperative Services	 Effective Date: 6/1/2023 Initial Effective Date: 4/1981				
<table> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> New policy proposal</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor/technical revision of two existing policies</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Major revision of existing policy</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Reaffirmation of existing policy</td> </tr> </table>		<input type="checkbox"/> New policy proposal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor/technical revision of two existing policies	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision of existing policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Reaffirmation of existing policy
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(A) Policy Statement

To assure that every patient's privacy is protected in The University of Toledo (UTMC) Operating Room (OR) during a procedure and to establish traffic patterns.

(B) Purpose of Policy

To establish specific guidelines for individuals to observe procedures in the OR and to facilitate controlled movement of employees, patients, and visitors throughout the OR.

(C) Background Information

1. The design of the OR is divided into three zones: the unrestricted area, the semi-restricted area and the restricted area. Each area is defined by the activities of the area.
2. In the unrestricted areas street clothes are permitted and provides access to the rest of the facility; in the semi-restricted area, traffic is limited to support personnel and patients and OR attire is required; in the restricted area, traffic is limited to inside personnel and is where the surgical procedures are performed.

(C) Procedure

1. All observers in the OR will:
 - a. Wear identification. All observers without a UTMC identification badge must have authorization by the OR management team or designee prior to entering the department.
 - b. Be accompanied by an OR staff member, anesthesia staff member or physician staff member.
 - c. Be admitted for a specific case or other specified purpose.
 - d. Adhere to all OR policies and procedures.
 - e. Suppliers will adhere to UTMC policy #3364-100-53-02 Supplier Visitation to the OR.
2. Physician visitors will be admitted to the OR with prior notification of the Director of Surgical Services or OR Management team. Physician visitors will not be allowed patient contact without first obtaining temporary privileges.
3. Non-Physician visitors will be admitted only with prior approval of either the Director of Surgical Services, or the OR Nursing Management team.
4. Parents/guardians of special needs children and interpreters of patients will be permitted in the OR only during induction of anesthesia. Parents of children undergoing video urodynamics will be allowed in the OR during the procedure. Other special needs may necessitate exceptions and can be approved by the Director of Surgical Services or Nursing Management Team.
5. The Operating Room department is identified by double doors, which are marked clearly as "Surgery".
6. All employees, surgeons, or individuals entering the semi-restricted area of surgery must change in to

appropriate OR attire according to the Operating Room Attire Guideline.

7. Individuals entering restricted areas such as OR suites during daily operations and/or set up and performance of a procedure must wear full surgical attire and masks.
8. Patients will be transported to the OR wearing a clean patient gown with a surgical hat covering their hair or scalp.
9. Double doors demarcate the outside, unrestricted areas from the semi-restricted and restricted areas.
10. All traffic within the OR suite is kept to a minimum; the number of individuals in the OR suite is kept to a minimum.
11. Doors to the OR suite are to remain closed except when necessary for movement of personnel and equipment.
12. All outside shipping cartons or boxes are removed before delivery to the OR. Any equipment from outside departments should be cleaned with a hospital-approved disinfectant prior to transport into an operating suite.
13. All contaminated instruments, trash, linen, or soiled items are contained in appropriate containers or covered.
14. Clean supplies and instruments will enter the surgical suite through the sterile core whenever possible. Contaminated supplies will be contained within the case cart and exit the surgical suite using the door to the hallway after the procedure. Contaminated supplies should not be transported through the sterile core.
15. All staff members of the OR will be oriented to the traffic patterns and controls of the department. Each individual is responsible for maintaining proper OR attire and traffic control.

<p>Approved by:</p> <p>/s/ _____ Date _____</p> <p>Kurt Kless, MSN, MBA, RN, NE-BC Chief Nursing Officer</p> <p>Review: Policy & Standard Committee, 11/10, 9/13, 2/16, 6/2023 Revision: 8/2020 Revision completed by: Ronni Zona RN, BSN, CNOR; Perioperative Educator</p>	<p>Review/Revision Date:</p> <p>1982 7/2005 1983 8/2007 1984 12/1/2010 1985 9.1.2013 1986 2.1.2016 1987 8/1/2020 1988 6/1/2023 1989 9/1990 6/1996 4/1999 7/2002</p>
<p>Next Review Date: 6/2026</p>	
<p>Policies Superseded by This Policy: 4-06</p>	