


<b>Name of Policy:</b> <u>Body Piercings, Sub dermal/Transdermal/Micro dermal Implants, Skin Divers</u>	 <b>Effective Date:</b> 4/2023 Initial Effective Date: 1/2015
<b>Policy Number:</b> 3364-122-47	
<b>Department:</b> Nursing Service – Inpatient Behavioral Health	
<b>Approving Officer:</b> AVP Patient Care Services/CNO	
<b>Responsible Agent:</b> Nursing Director Inpatient Psychiatry	
<b>Scope:</b> The University of Toledo Medical Center	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> New policy proposal  <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision of existing policy </div> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor/technical revision of existing policy  <input type="checkbox"/> Reaffirmation of existing policy </div> </div>	

**(A) Policy Statement**

All patients will be free of items that could potentially be used in impulsive, unsafe behaviors.

**(B) Purpose of Policy**

To assure the safety of all patients and staff by securing potentially dangerous objects.

**(C) Procedure**

1. Staff will assess each patient on admission for body piercings. Staff will note obvious piercings (ear, nose, eyebrow, tongue, lip, etc.) and will ask both patient and patient's guardian if there are any additional piercings which are covered by clothing and not obviously visible.
2. Staff will inform patient that jewelry, including body piercings of any kind, is not permitted.
3. Staff will request that all body piercing jewelry be removed and sent home with parent/guardian. If not able to send body piercing jewelry home, it will be secured in locked cabinet and sent home at the next available opportunity.
4. Staff will document in the EMR all body piercings and whether body piercing jewelry was secured in locked cabinet or sent home with parent/guardian.
5. If the patient refuses to remove body piercings:
  - a. Staff will document patient's refusal in the EMR, and on the whiteboard.
  - b. Staff will report patient's refusal to the next shift through shift-to-shift report.
  - c. Staff will continue to request that patient remove all body piercings each shift, if awake, and will document patient's refusal or compliance with request.
  - d. As long as patient refuses to remove body piercings, patient may be placed on Nursing Close Observation or Suicide/Runaway Precautions.
6. If the patient has a Sub dermal Implant, Transdermal implant, Micro dermal Implant or Skin Diver, he/she may remain on Nursing Close Observation or Suicide/Runaway Precautions throughout length of stay.

<b>Approved by:</b>  <div> <div>/s/</div> <div>Tamara Cerrone, BSN, RN, Nursing Director</div> <div>Date</div> </div> <div> <div>/s/</div> <div>Tanvir Singh, MD Service Chief</div> <div>Date</div> </div> <div> <div>/s/</div> <div>Kurt Kless, MSN, RN Chief Nursing Officer</div> <div>Date</div> </div> <div> <i>Review/Revision Completed By:</i>  <i>Tamara Cerrone, RN, BSN</i>  <i>Reviewed by: Policy &amp; Standards Committee 6/2018</i> </div>		<b>Review/Revision Date:</b> <b>Written 1/2015</b> <b>6/2018</b> <b>6/1/2021</b> <b>4/1/2023</b>
		<b>Next Review Date:</b> 4/1/2026
<b>Policies Superseded by This Policy: 1-M-</b>		