Name of Policy:	Cleaning and Disinfection of Toys	\$
Policy Number:	3364-109-EQP-800	MEDICAL CENTER
Department:	Infection Control Hospital Administration Lenore W. and Marvin S. Kobacker Center	
Approving Officer:	Chair, Infection Control Committee Psychiatry, Agency Executive Director Chief Nursing Officer	
Responsible Agent:	Infection Preventionist	
Scope:	The Kobacker Center and University of Toledo Medical Center and its Medical Staff	Effective Date: 12/01/2022 Initial Effective Date: 04/04/2014
	ry proposal Minor/technical notation of existing policy X Reaffirmation of	revision of existing policy

(A) Policy statement

All toys used in the Kobacker Center and at the University of Toledo Medical Center shall meet specifications relating to safety and infection prevention requirements.

(B) Purpose of policy

To provide a safe play environment for all children by providing guidelines that will ensure that all toys are being cleaned and disinfected appropriately at the Kobacker Center and at the University of Toledo Medical Center.

(C) Procedure

1. General Guidelines:

- (a) Prior to use, all toys shall be reviewed by the Director or designee and will be impervious, smooth, non-porous, and able to withstand cleaning and disinfection.
- (b) The admitting nurse will determine whether toys brought from home by parents for children admitted to the Kobacker inpatient unit meet safety and infection prevention specifications.
- (c) Toys will be non-porous, smooth, impervious, and able to withstand cleaning and disinfection.
- (d) Puzzles, games, and books with paper pages do not require disinfection. These items pose very little risk and if visibly soiled should be given to the patient to take home.
- (e) Dolls/action figures used should have plastic clothes that are easy to clean. If cloth clothes are used in the outpatient setting this poses little risk unless they become

visibly soiled. If contamination occurs the toy should be given to the patient to take home.

- (f) Soft toys (stuffed animals) will only be used in the Kobacker inpatient setting and must be new and single patient use only. These toys will go home with the patient on discharge.
- (g) Patients will be instructed to clean their hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer before playing with all toys.
- (h) Any toy that is visibly soiled or comes into contact with mucous membranes or body fluid must be cleaned and disinfected immediately. Clean toys must be clearly separated from dirty toys.
- (i) Toys used in isolation rooms must be cleaned and disinfected between patients.
- (j) Any toy used during an outpatient therapy session will be cleaned and disinfected on a routine basis at least monthly. If the toy becomes visibly soiled it must be cleaned and disinfected before next use.
- (k) Toys in the Activity Area in the Kobacker Inpatient setting, will be kept to a minimum and cleaned and disinfected on a routine basis, at least weekly. If the toy is used by children with or suspected to have a communicable disease, it will be cleaned and disinfected immediately.
- (1) The Infection Prevention and Control Department will conduct periodic monitoring of cleaning practices.

(2) Cleaning and Disinfection:

Toys must be washed thoroughly, disinfected, and air dried. Disinfectants will not work if the toy is visibly soiled with dirt or organic material.

- (a) Cleaning
 - (i.) Gloves must be worn.
 - (ii.) Use of hospital approved detergent and water to clean the toys is acceptable. Use soft bristle brush or clean cloth to clean with soap and water. If the toy cannot be submerged in water, wipe toy with cloth with detergent and water. Then wipe with clean water to rinse.
 - (iii.) If toys can be submerged they may also be placed into a mesh bag and washed in the washing machine using a hospital approved detergent and allowed to air dry.
- (b) Disinfection

- (i) Gloves must be worn.
- (ii) 1:100 diluted bleach, isopropyl alcohol, or disinfectant wipes can be used. Wipe entire surface of toy. After recommended contact times for disinfectants, toys must be rinsed in water and dried. (Rinsing not required if using alcohol).
- (iii) Allow to air dry.

References:

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Approved by:		Review/Revision Date: 09/1988
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Review/Revision Completed By:		
Kobacker Administration		Next Review Date:
Infection Prevention		11/2025