

NURSING SERVICE GUIDELINES GENERAL

Guideline: Identification and communication of restricted extremity use



Policy Number Superseded:

Effective Date:

May 2024

Responsibility: All patient care personnel

Initial Effective Date:

April 2015

Purpose of Guideline: To have a standardized process that identifies patients with restrictions on the use of one or more extremities for the purpose of invasive and non-invasive procedures.

Procedure:

1. A 'limb alert' bracelet will be applied to the affected limb upon admission or at point of service, determining that an extremity has been deemed restricted.
2. No laboratory venous draws, no intravenous (IV) starts, and no blood pressures are to be performed on the affected limb.
3. The 'limb alert' bracelet will be left on the affected limb until either the restriction is lifted or at the time of patient discharge from the hospital.

Approved by:

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Chief Nursing Officer*

Initial effective date:

April 2015

Review/Revision Date:

April 2018

March 2021

May 2024

Review/Revision Completed by:

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*Reviewed by Policy & Standard
Committee*

*April 2015, April 2018, March 2021,
May 2024*

Next review date:

May 2027