


<b>Name of Policy:</b> <u>Infection Control</u>	
<b>Policy Number:</b> 3364-137-SH-17	
<b>Department:</b> Rehabilitation Services	
<b>Approving Officer:</b> Chief Executive Officer - UTMC	
<b>Responsible Agent:</b> Director, Therapy Services	
<b>Scope:</b> Rehabilitation Services	
<b>Effective Date:</b> 12/1/2019 <b>Initial Effective Date:</b> 1/1979	
<input type="checkbox"/> New policy proposal <input type="checkbox"/> Minor/technical revision of existing policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision of existing policy <input type="checkbox"/> Reaffirmation of existing policy	

**(A) Policy Statement**

The Rehabilitation Services Department will comply with all infection control policies as established for the hospital as well as any policies established specifically for Rehabilitation Services department procedures. The Rehabilitation Services Department will comply with the Standard Precautions Policy as established for the hospital.

**(B) Purpose of Policy**

To assure all patients will receive the same standard of care regardless of whether they may have a potentially infectious disease.

**(C) Procedure**

Infection Control Guidelines will be available at all times and will be accessible to employees online through Clinical Portal link to Hospital Administration Policies and Plans.

Any Rehab Service infection control policies and/or procedures are kept in the Rehab specific policy section of the Hospital Administration Policies and Plans.

It is the responsibility of each employee to familiarize himself with these guidelines and to follow them, and for the safety committee to keep employees knowledgeable of policy changes.

Each employee will be instructed on infection control guidelines during their initial orientation and annually for the duration of their employment within the department.

Some personnel may be required to pass competencies in other areas (i.e., aseptic technique).

MEASURES FOR INFECTION CONTROL

1. Personal protective equipment will be available to all employees in all areas. This equipment will be routinely checked to assure it is available and restocked with each use.
2. Standard precautions will be used for all patients.
3. Therapy mats will be wiped with hospital approved disinfectant after each patient use.
4. Therapy equipment (i.e. weights, balls) will be cleaned with hospital approved disinfectant after use.
5. Equipment that cannot be cleaned (i.e. putty, cardboard puzzles) will not be used with patients in isolation.
6. Equipment used in Rehab Services will be cleaned per manufacturer guidelines.

7. Open lesions will be covered prior to the use of department equipment.
8. Contact precautions will be utilized as ordered. The rehabilitation staff will encourage and educate these patients on proper hand washing technique. Patients will wash their hands prior to leaving their room for activities outside of their rooms.
9. Dishes and countertops in the OT kitchen will be cleaned and sanitized per department procedure.

**Wound Care in Rehabilitation Services**

1. All patients with an open wound will be considered potentially infectious.
2. Any draining or open wound will be covered when the patient is not in their room.
3. For wound care in cases of open lesion, all rehabilitation staff must:
  - hand wash before wound care
  - wear clean gloves to remove dressing
  - use sterile technique to redress
  - hand wash following wound care
4. Wounds shall be redressed or covered for patient transport.
5. Whirlpool treatment and whirlpool maintenance will be completed per department procedures.
6. Clean, dry towels will be used to dry and protect open wounds following whirlpool treatments.

<b>Approved by:</b>	<b>Review/Revision Date:</b>
<hr/>	8/84 8/1999
<i>/s/</i>	10/85 8/2000
_____ Marci Canci Frey PT, DPT, MBA Director of Therapy Services	10/87 3/2002
Date	11/88 9/2003
	7/90 8/2006
	10/91 7/2009
	10/93 7/2012
<i>/s/</i>	5/94 7/2013
_____ Daniel Barbee RN, BSN, MBA, FACHE CEO	3/96 7/2014
Date	10/97 11/1/2016
	2/98 12/2019
	9/98
<i>Review/Revision Completed By:</i> <i>Marci Canci Frey</i>	
	<b>Next Review Date:</b> 12/1/2022
<b>Policies Superseded by This Policy:</b> 23-SH-17	

*It is the responsibility of the reader to verify with the responsible agent that this is the most current version of the policy.*