

GUIDELINE ESSENTIALS

QUICK VIEW

Surgical Attire



ATTIRE AND LAUNDERING

- Wear clean surgical attire in the semi-restricted and restricted areas.
- Have visitors who enter the semi-restricted or restricted areas don clean surgical attire or a single-use jumpsuit.
- Check scrub apparel for visible damage and contamination before use.
- If donning a lab coat to be worn as cover apparel in the perioperative area, ensure that it is clean before use.
- Convene an interdisciplinary team to
 - select scrub apparel made of fabrics that are tightly woven and low linting and
 - determine the circumstances under which surgical attire should be changed after an individual has been in other areas of the building or outside.
- If surgical attire has become contaminated with visible blood or body fluids, place it in a bag or container and leave it at the health care facility to be laundered.
- Remove scrub apparel before you leave at the end of the day.
- Used scrub apparel should be laundered at
 - a health care-accredited laundry facility or

- the health care organization (according to state regulations or Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations in the absence of state regulations).

★ *Wearing clean surgical attire in the semi-restricted and restricted areas may prevent patients from being exposed to pathogens that could contribute to a surgical site infection. Changing out of scrub apparel into street clothes when leaving the building reduces the potential for transporting pathogenic microorganisms from the health care facility into the home or community.*



HEAD COVERINGS

- Cover the hair and scalp while in the semi-restricted and restricted areas.
- Cover a beard in the restricted areas and while preparing and packaging items in sterile processing.
- Manage reusable head coverings (eg, cloth personal head coverings, religious head coverings) by determining the types of fabrics that may be worn, the laundering frequency, and the laundering method to use.
- Remove head coverings if they become contaminated and leave reusable head coverings at the health care facility for laundering.

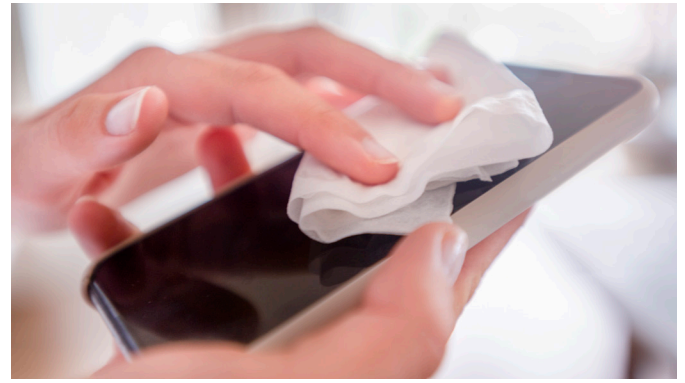
★ *Reducing the risk of contamination during surgery is a primary focus for the perioperative team. Head coverings prevent shedding of hair, skin, and microorganisms of perioperative team members, which may contaminate the sterile field.*



SHOES

- Wear clean shoes in the semi-restricted and restricted areas.
- Wear protective footwear according to the health care organization's safety requirements.
- Wear fluid-resistant shoe covers or boots when gross contamination can be anticipated.
- Remove shoe covers worn as personal protective equipment immediately after use, and then perform hand hygiene.

★ *The Occupational Safety and Health Administration requires that protective footwear be worn in areas where there is a risk for foot injuries. Employers should perform a hazard risk assessment to ensure personnel are following regulations.*



STETHOSCOPES, IDENTIFICATION BADGES, ACCESS CARDS, AND PERSONAL ITEMS

- Clean and disinfect stethoscopes before each use.
- Clean and disinfect identification badges and access cards if they become soiled.
- Convene an interdisciplinary team to determine whether lanyards can be worn in the perioperative setting.
- Develop a process for preventing contamination of the semi-restricted and restricted areas from personal items (eg, briefcases, backpacks).
- Clean and disinfect cell phones, tablets, and other handheld devices before bringing them into the OR.
- Provide education with real-time feedback, such as cleaning verification tests (eg, adenosine triphosphate [ATP]) and culturing before and after cleaning and disinfection.

★ *Stethoscopes, identification badges, access cards, lanyards, and handheld devices (eg, cell phones) have the potential to harbor pathogens. Disinfecting these items will help reduce the number of pathogens and may help reduce the risk of health care-acquired infections.*