Dress Code: Surgical Attire

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Surgical Attire policy is to establish standards of appropriate dress and appearance for those who work in Procedural areas at UC Irvine Medical Center. This includes OR, PACU, SPD, Interventional Radiology, Cardiac Cath Lab, and Labor and Delivery units, and clinics where surgical procedures are performed. It is also used to reduce the number of infection producing agents into areas where aseptic procedures are performed.

II. BACKGROUND

The human body is a major source of microbial contamination in the surgical environment. Clothes worn into the institution from the outside increase the potential for contamination (animal hair, cross contamination from other uncontrolled environments). Wearing clean surgical attire aids in protecting patients from the risk of contamination during surgical procedures. Conversely, wearing clean surgical attire decreases the risk of operating room personnel being exposed to bacteria from the patient.

A significant factor in setting and maintaining the image of the Medical center is the manner in which faculty, residents, staff, and others participating in service delivery are viewed by patients, visitors and the general public. Dress and appearance play a major role in establishing an image of high quality, professional health care in the community.

III. POLICY

A. Only physicians, staff and observers in procedural areas are allowed to wear surgical scrubs.

B. Street clothes are not to be worn within semi-restricted and restricted areas of the OR or procedural areas.

C. A red line separates non-restricted from semi-restricted and restricted areas.

D. All surgical attire should be made of low linting reusable woven fabric or single-use, non-woven fabric.

E. The OR or Procedural Suite is considered a "controlled environment," therefore, all persons entering this area will be required to wear surgical scrub clothing as described below.

GUIDELINES

• See Attachment "A"
REFERENCES


RELATED POLICIES, PROCEDURES & STANDARDS

- UCIMC Administrative Policy: Dress Code
- Infection Control Policy: Hand Hygiene
- Procedural Services Policies: Gowning and Gloving Procedures
- Procedural Services Policies: Healthcare Representatives in the OR
- Procedural Services Policies: Infection Control in the OR
- Procedural Services Policies: Observers in the OR

Attachments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attachment A. Dress Code Surgical Guidelines.docx</th>
<th>Approver</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nance Hove</td>
<td>10/2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rose Jacobs</td>
<td>10/2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rose Jacobs</td>
<td>10/2012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE
DRESS CODE: SURGICAL ATTIRE GUIDELINES

A. Scrub Clothes
1. Clean scrub clothes will be donned daily in the department and will be changed whenever they become soiled or wet.
2. All personnel shall wear a two-piece pantsuit provided by UCIMC. Scrub tops should be secured, tucked into the pants, or fit close to the body.
3. All personal clothing (excluding undergarments) must be removed. Clean, long sleeve shirts/turtlenecks may be worn by personnel who are not expected to scrub for surgery. These shirts must be washed on a daily basis.
4. Surgical gowns may be worn for warmth. Disposable gowns should be cut at thigh length, similar to a warming jacket.
5. OR green scrub clothes must not be worn off of the Medical Center campus at any time.
6. A cover gown/lab coat must be worn over scrubs when leaving the OR. Clothing must be changed if leaving the OR for an extended period of time. Scrubs should only be worn out of the OR, if appropriate, for short periods of time. Surgical scrubs must not be worn when seeing patients in clinic.
7. Clean white “bunny suits”, one piece jumpsuits, may be worn in the OR for emergency situations or brief OR entry, i.e. NICU staff entering to receive a baby or assist anesthesia provider at induction or emergency; ICU staff/MD for donation after cardiac death.; facilities concerns when sterile supplies are not open in the OR.
   ▶ If a bunny suit is unavailable, a cover gown, i.e. an impervious or isolation gown that wraps completely around the body, whichever is available, may be worn.

B. Shoes/Shoe Covers
1. Disposable shoe covers are optional.
2. Closed-toe shoes and socks are required in the OR. Sandals or any open-toe shoes which do not adequately protect the feet, or which are not acceptable according to hospital policy, must not be worn in the perioperative area.
3. Shoe covers must be removed when leaving the operating room.

C. Masks
1. Disposable, high filtration efficiency masks must be worn in the restricted areas of the OR Suite whenever open sterile items and equipment are present.
2. One mask is worn. Double masking provides a barrier rather than a filter and is unacceptable.
3. Cloth or gauze masks are unacceptable.
4. The mask must cover the mouth and nose entirely and be tied securely.
5. The mask should be removed by touching only the strings.
6. Masks are discarded directly into waste receptacles.
7. Masks must be changed between cases and whenever soiled or wet and discarded in an appropriate receptacle.
D. **Surgical Hats**
   1. Disposable scrub hats that completely cover all head and facial hair are to be worn by all personnel entering the OR restrictive area.
   2. Cloth hats may be only be worn when there is evidence of an allergic reaction to the disposable hats, evidenced by a physician’s note. Cloth hats must be cleaned and laundered daily.
   3. Skull caps shall not be worn.
   4. Net or crinoline caps shall not be worn.

E. **Jewelry**
   1. Scrub personnel will remove/confine all jewelry prior to scrubbing.
   2. Earrings must be contained within the scrub hat at all times.
   3. Necklaces or chains must be removed unless they are long enough to remain under the gown.

F. **Fingernails**
   1. Fingernails must be kept clean, smooth, and well manicured. The wearing of artificial nails is not allowed.

G. **Protective Eyewear**
   1. Protective eyewear or face shields will be worn by scrub personnel for all procedures to prevent exposure of eyes to blood & body fluids.
   2. Protective eyewear must cover the side and bottom of the eyes. Approved eyewear is available to all personnel.

H. **Photo Identification**
   1. All Medical Center personnel are required to wear an identification badge above the waist per hospital policy.

I. **Personal Belongings**
   1. Are not permitted in the OR unless required for the procedure.
   2. Outside equipment required for the case should be wiped down before crossing the “red line”, i.e. camera equipment, vendor accessories, etc.

J. **Outside the OR Suite**
   1. Shoe covers, hats, and masks must be discarded when leaving the OR.

K. **Visitors/Ancillary Personnel**
   Engineering and other interdepartmental employees, whose services are required in surgery, must adhere to this policy.