AORN Recommended Practices: Attire & Traffic Patterns

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Objectives

- Discuss strategies to implement OR Attire recommendations.

- Discuss the three distinct traffic areas in the perioperative setting; unrestricted, semi restricted, and restricted.
Recommended Practices for Surgical Attire
Recommendation I

- Surgical attire should be made of low-linting material, contain shed skin squames, provide comfort, and promote a professional appearance.
Clean surgical attire, including shoes, head covering, masks, jackets, and identification badges should be worn in the semi restricted and restricted areas of the surgical or invasive procedure setting.
OR Break Room—Unrestricted
All individuals who enter the semi restricted and restricted areas should wear freshly laundered surgical attire that is laundered at a health care-accredited laundry facility or disposable surgical attire provided by the facility and intended for use within the perioperative setting.

Recommendation III
Endoscopy
Center Core–Semi Restricted
Ortho–Restricted
Recommendation IV

- All personnel should cover head and facial hair, including sideburns and the nape of the neck, when in the semi restricted and restricted areas.
Outer Hall–Semi Restricted
Recommendation V

- Surgical attire should be laundered in a health care- accredited laundry facility.
All individuals entering the restricted areas should wear a surgical mask when open sterile supplies and equipment are present.
Recommendation VII

Health care personnel should receive initial and ongoing education and demonstrate competency on appropriate surgical attire.
Recommendation VIII

Policies and procedures for surgical attire should be developed, reviewed periodically, and be readily available within the practice setting.
Sample Policy

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<tr>
<th>Environmental Cleaning in the Surgical Practice Setting</th>
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<td>Surgery</td>
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A clean environment (absence of visible dust, debris, soil, or body material) is crucial for surgical patients and minimizes the exposure risk of healthcare personnel to potentially infectious microorganisms.

**Personnel Impacted:** Surgery (OR), Environmental Services (EVS), Central Supply Chain, Materials Management, Radiology, and Facilities Management.

Initial inspection of the room for cleanliness will be performed by the operating nurses before supplies and instruments are brought into the room. Additional cleaning of items brought in by other departments (i.e., Radiology) is to be completed.
The health care organization’s quality management program should evaluate compliance with surgical attire policies and identify and respond to opportunities for improvement.
Recommended Practices for Traffic Patterns in the Perioperative Practice Setting
Recommendation I

Traffic patterns should be designed to facilitate movement of patients and personnel into, through, and out of defined areas within the surgical suite. Signs should clearly indicate the appropriate environmental controls and surgical attire required.
ASC– Unrestricted
Recommendation II

Operating room suites should be secure.
Recommendation III

Movement of personnel should be kept to a minimum while invasive and noninvasive procedures are in progress.
Recommendation IV

The movement of clean and sterile supplies and equipment should be separated from contaminated supplies, equipment, and waste by space, time or traffic patterns.
Central Sterile– Decontam
Central Sterile–Prep and Pack
During construction and renovation, specific traffic patterns should be established and maintained in accordance with applicable state regulations.
Recommendation VI

- Policies and procedures for traffic patterns for patients, personnel, supplies, and equipment should be developed, reviewed periodically, revised as necessary, and kept readily available in the practice setting.
Grandma, Loren & Mia
Questions?

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