

Policy Number: S0097**Policy Title: S0097 Policy - Dress Attire for PeriAnesthesia, Surgical Services, and Reprocessing****Chapter Location: Patient Care & Clinical Guidelines**

Owner: Manager, Surgical Services	Date Created: 03/2011
Approver(s): VP of Hospital Operations and Nurse Executive	Date Last Approved: 10/2025
	Date of Next Review: 10/2026

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Policy Statement: Clean scrub clothing and personal protective equipment is worn to promote cleanliness and hygiene to protect the direct surgical environment and surrounding area from microbial shedding.

Purpose: To provide expectations for attire worn within the semi-restricted and restricted areas of the Perianesthesia, Sterile Processing, and Surgical Services environments of Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare.

Scope: Perianesthesia, Sterile Processing, and Surgical Services environments

Oversight:

- Perioperative Leadership Committee
- Infection Prevention Committee

Definitions:

Zones of the Department:

- Unrestricted Area: Pre/Post/PACU
- Semi-Restricted Area:
 - Sterile Processing
 - Support spaces adjacent to actual surgical suite
 - Anesthesia work room
 - Pharmacy
 - Scrub sink areas
 - All entrances and corridors leading to surgical suites
 - Clean core room servicing operating rooms
 - Storage spaces for clean and sterile supply
- Restricted Area: Operating Rooms

Policy:

- I. In addition to [HR-M02 Policy - Personal Appearance](#) requirements, personnel entering perianesthesia, sterile processing, and/or surgical services will obtain and don attire and personal protective equipment (PPE) with clean hands as outlined in the procedure below
 - A. PPE for the protection of the surgical environment will be provided in designated changing rooms and at the point of entry into semi-restricted and restricted zones of the department

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- B. PPE for the prevention of blood and body fluid exposure will be donned in accordance with [IP1002 Policy - Isolation Precautions](#)
 - C. Hand and nail hygiene will be maintained in accordance with [IP 2000 Policy - Hand Hygiene](#)
- II. Handheld Devices: Cell phones, tablets, and other personal communication or hand-held electronic equipment will be cleaned before being brought into the OR and as needed.
- III. Non-Gillette staff (e.g., contractors, vendors, law enforcement, visitors, family members) are expected to comply with the requirements of this policy and will be
 - A. Assisted by employees in obtaining and donning the proper personal protective equipment before entering a semi-restricted or restricted area
 - B. Instructed on hand hygiene expectations

Procedure:

- I. See attached table beginning on page 3.

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Attire	Comments	Zone		
		Unrestricted	Semi-Restricted	Restricted
Clean surgical scrubs or Bunny suit	- Surgical scrubs - Will be provided in the designated changing rooms - Will be laundered through the Gillette contracted laundry service - Will be changed when visibly soiled or wet - Tops will fit close to the body or be tucked in - Will be returned before leaving the 200, 205, and/or Regions building - From hospitals other than Gillette and Regions are not permitted - Warm-up jackets will be provided - Personal clothing that cannot be contained within the scrub attire may not be worn - Lab coats will be removed before entering semi-restricted and restricted areas	Clean surgical scrubs for Pre/Post personnel providing patient care	X	X
Hospital-Dedicated Shoes or Shoe Coverings	- Bunny suits must be changed after each use, they are not reusable. - Bunny suits should not be worn intraoperatively while working at the sterile field. - Observers on the periphery who are wearing a bunny suit should instead don surgical scrubs if remaining in room for longer than an hour. Bunny suits are otherwise suitable for an hour or less spent in the OR observing.			
	- Must be clean (absence of visible dust, soil, body fluids, etc.) and provide protection from sharp instrument strikes - Fluid resistant shoe covers will be worn when anticipating splashes or spills to the feet may occur. - Shoe covers worn as PPE must be removed immediately after use and disposed of appropriately.		X	X
Head cover	- Aim: Minimize shedding/sloughing of hair and skin by covering/containing most hair, leaving only a small amount of hair on the nape or a modest side burn uncovered - Cloth skull caps are permissible when washed between uses and made of lint-free fabric and covered with disposable bouffant - Disposable skull caps are allowed, but must be covered by a disposable bouffant if hair cannot be adequately contained - Hoods are available to cover hair that is not otherwise well contained, such as extended sideburns (mutton chop shaped), and some facial hair - Head Coverings such as scarves must be tight to the neck and secured under the scrub neckline		X	X
Beard cover	- Beard coverings for beards, goatees or facial stubble longer than 2-5 mm are required if hair cannot be completely covered by a mask for personnel working in the following situations (even if not providing direct patient care) - Scrubbed in		X	X

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	▪ Entering an open operating room (e.g., to bring in equipment, run supplies, or to perform a duty such as imaging or casting) ▪ Handling sterile supplies (e.g., picking case carts, inventorying, or returning sterile supplies to the shelves) ▪ Assembling surgical instrumentation (e.g., working on the clean side of SPD) ▪ Preparing surgical materials (e.g., such as opening an OR)			
Masks	• Fluid resistant tie masks are required when handling sterile items and/or equipment or in the same room as open sterile items and/or equipment or when scrubbed persons are present. • Masks are a single use item; a new tie mask should be donned with each new surgical case or when soiled		X	X
Eye Protection	• Eye protection must be donned when there is a risk of occupational exposure to blood or other infectious products or chemicals (such as chloraprep).. • Acceptable forms of eyewear include those that provide front and side eye protection (e.g., surgical masks in combination with eye protection, goggles, glasses with solid side shields, chin-length face shields)	As Needed		
Jewelry	• To maintain a safe and sterile environment in the surgical field, all staff members are required to adhere to the following guidelines regarding the wearing of earrings: ○ Permissible Earring Styles: Only small stud or small hoop earrings are permitted. Earrings should be simple and unobtrusive, minimizing the risk of contamination or interference with sterile procedures. ▪ Earrings must be covered by head covering when working at the sterile field. If this cannot be accomplished, then earrings may not be worn at the sterile field. ○ Prohibited Earring Styles: Dangling earrings, intricate designs, or any earring styles that may pose a safety risk or compromise sterility are strictly prohibited in the surgical field. ○ Compliance and Safety: These guidelines are established to reduce the risk of infection, ensure patient safety, and maintain professional standards within the surgical environment. Staff members are expected to comply fully with this policy to uphold these standards. • Necklaces will be able to be tucked into a scrub shirt • Scrubbed staff will be bare below the elbows (i.e. no rings, watches, bracelets) • Non-scrubbed staff are to minimize jewelry to that which can be easily removed or cleaned as needed (e.g., wedding band, watch with cleanable band, etc.)			

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Related Documents:

[HR-M02 Policy - Personal Appearance](#)

[IP1002 Policy - Isolation Precautions](#)

[IP 2000 Policy - Hand Hygiene](#)

[SF18 Policy - Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan](#)

References:

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THIS POLICY SUPERSEDES ANY PREVIOUS GILLETTE POLICIES OR PRACTICES.