LOYOLA UNIVERSITY HEALTH SYSTEM

PATIENT CARE POLICY & PROCEDURE NUMBER:
Operating Room Attire 13.6090.51

Subject: Operating Room Attire

Date Implemented: March 1982 **Date Revised:** January 2018

Medical Center Administration Approval:

Karen Anderson, RN, MSN, MBA *Vice President, Patient Care Services* *Chief Nurse Executive/ Health Care Services*	*Ella Echavez, MBA, BSN, RN* *Administrative Director* *Department of Surgical Services*

I. REVIEWED BY:

a. Interprocedural Magnet Committee

II. REFERENCES OR RESOURCES

A. American College of Surgeons (2016). Statement on operating room attire

B. AORN (2015). Clinical issues: Personnel wearing hijabs in the OR.

C. AORN (2017). Guideline for Surgical Attire

D. Illinois General Assembly Administrative Code (2010). Title 77, Chapter 1, Subchapter b, Part 250, Section 1300: Operating Room

E. Occupational Safety & Health Administration. Personal protective equipment: Occupational foot protection.

F. Occupational Safety & Health Administration. Bloodborne pathogens.

G. Petersen C, ed. Infection. In: *Perioperative Nursing Data Set*. 3rd ed. Denver, CO: AORN, Inc; 2011:254-276.

III. PURPOSE:

To provide guidance to perioperative personnel for surgical attire, including scrub attire, shoes, jewelry, head coverings, and surgical masks worn in the semirestricted and restricted areas. Guidance is also provided for personal items and personal electronic devices taken into the semirestricted and restricted areas. The expected outcome is that the patient will be free from signs and symptoms of infection.

IV. SCOPE:

This policy applies to personnel in the Russo Operating Room and Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC).

V. DEFINITIONS

A. **Scrub attire**: Nonsterile apparel designed for the perioperative practice setting that includes two-piece pantsuits, scrub dresses, long-sleeved cover jackets, and head coverings

B. **Surgical attire**: Nonsterile apparel designated for the perioperative practice setting that includes two-piece pantsuits, scrub dresses, cover jackets, head coverings, shoes, masks, and protective eyewear.

C. **Restricted:** This is the area where surgical procedures are performed. This area includes operating room and substerile areas. Scrub attire, masks, and caps required in this area.

1. Masks are not required in O.R. suite unless sterile supplies are open.
2. No white bunny suits in OR suites when sterile supplies are open.
3. Shoe covers are not required unless desired for PPE.

D. **Semi-Restricted:** This includes the most peripheral support areas of the suite. Traffic is limited to authorized personnel and patients in this area. Peripheral support area may include, but are not limited to storage areas for clean and sterile supplies, corridors to the restricted areas. Scrub attire and caps are required in this area.
1. White bunny suits are acceptable in this area.

E. **Unrestricted:** This area includes a central control point which is established to monitor the entrance of patients, personal, and materials and to communicate information between personnel within the surgical suite and the rest of the health care facility.

VI. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

A. Clean surgical attire will be worn in semirestricted and restricted areas.

B. Individuals who enter semirestricted and restricted areas will wear scrub attire that has been laundered at the health care-accredited laundry facility or wear single-use scrub attire provided by the facility and intended for use within perioperative areas.
1. Scrub attire will be laundered in the health care-accredited laundry facility after each daily use and when contaminated.

C. Personnel entering the semirestricted and restricted areas should cover the head, hair, and facial hair.

D. Perioperative personnel leaving a building and traveling outside should don a buttoned knee length lab coat over surgical attire.

1. Cover apparel (eg, lab coats) worn over scrub attire will be clean or single-use.

E. Identification badges should be worn by all personnel authorized to enter perioperative areas.

F. Surgical masks, in combination with eye protection devices (eg, goggles, glasses with solid side shields, chin-length face shields) should be worn whenever splashes, spray, spatter, or droplets of blood, body fluids, or other potentially infectious materials may be generated and eye, nose, or mouth contamination can be reasonably anticipated.

VII. COMPONENTS OF SCRUB ATTIRE

A. Scrub Attire

1. Don clean scrub attire daily in the designated dressing area before entering the semirestricted and restricted areas.
2. Prevent clean scrub attire from contacting the floor or other contaminated surfaces while donning.
3. Ensure all personal clothing is covered by the scrub attire.
4. Tuck the top of the scrub suit into the pants if it does not fit close to the body.
5. Wear close-fitting long-sleeved jackets with the snaps closed and with the cuffs down to the wrists when in the restricted areas, performing preoperative patient skin antisepsis, and performing preparation and packaging of items in the clean assembly section of the sterile processing area.
   a. Long-sleeved reusable jackets should be cleaned daily
   b. Disposable long-sleeved jackets are available for use
      (1) Discard single-use scrub attire in a trash container
6. Persons entering the semirestricted or restricted areas for a brief time (eg, law enforcement officers, parents, biomedical engineers) will don clean scrub attire, single-use scrub attire, or a single-use jumpsuit (eg, coveralls, bunny suit) designed to completely cover personal apparel.
7. Scrub attire that has been penetrated by blood, body fluids, or other potentially infectious materials should be removed immediately or as soon as possible and replaced with clean attire.
   a. Scrub attire contaminated with visible blood or body fluids should be laundered at the health care-accredited laundry facility.
   b. Wet or contaminated scrub attire should not be rinsed or sorted in the location of use.

B. Shoes

1. Wear shoes that are clean and dedicated for use within the perioperative area.
   a. Shoe covers should be utilized when wearing a pair of shoes not exclusively dedicated to be worn in the perioperative area
   b. Wear shoe covers when gross contamination can reasonably be anticipated.
   c. Remove single-use shoe covers worn as personal protective equipment immediately after use, discard, and perform hand hygiene.
2. Shoes worn within the perioperative environment should meet Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards for protective footwear;
   a. be constructed to prevent exposures to blood, body fluids, and other potentially infectious materials; and
   b. have closed toes and backs, low heels, and non-skid soles.

C. **Surgical Masks**
1. Wear a mask when open sterile supplies and equipment are present and opened.
2. Don a fresh, clean surgical mask before performing or assisting with each new procedure.
3. Cover the mouth and nose with the mask and tie it securely.
4. Do not wear the mask hanging down from the neck.
5. Replace and discard the mask whenever it becomes wet or soiled, or has been taken down.
6. Remove the mask by handling only the mask ties and perform hand hygiene after removing the mask.
7. Clean reusable protection devices worn with surgical masks, such as goggles, or personal glasses supplemented with solid side shields, according to the manufacturer's instructions for use before and after performing or assisting with each new procedure.

D. **Identification Badges**
1. Secure identification badges in a visible location on the scrub attire top or long-sleeved jacket.
2. Do not wear lanyards around the neck.
3. Clean identification badges with a low-level disinfectant regularly and when the badge becomes soiled.

E. **Stethoscopes**
1. Do not use fabric covers for stethoscopes.
2. Clean stethoscopes before and after each use with a low-level disinfectant.

F. **Personal Items**
1. Clean briefcases, backpacks, and other personal items taken into the semirestricted or restricted areas:
   a. Should be able to be cleaned with a low-level disinfectant or placed in a plastic covering
2. Clean cell phones, tablets, and other personal communication or hand-held electronic equipment according to the manufacturer's instructions for use with a low-level disinfectant before and after being taken into the semirestricted or restricted areas.
3. Fanny waist packs are not allowed in the OR because of the inability to clean between and after patients.
4. Jewelry (including weddings rings/bands) that cannot be contained or confined within the scrub attire will not be worn in the semi-restricted or restricted areas.
   a. Watches are permitted as long as they can be cleaned with a low-level disinfectant.

G. **Head Coverings**
1. Personnel should wear a clean surgical head cover or hood that confines all hair and completely covers the scalp skin, facial hair/beard, sideburns, and nape of the neck.
   a. Reusable head coverings should be covered by a disposable bouffant cap offered by the facility.
   b. Disposable skull caps can be worn if it confines all hair on the head and nape of neck.

c. Beard covers are provided in the department within the locker rooms.
d. Disposable hoods are available for those requiring coverage of the head and neck for modesty or religious purposes.

2. Remove the surgical head covering when changing into street clothes and going outside the perioperative area.
3. Remove single-use head coverings at the end of the shift or when contaminated and discard in a designated receptacle.

H. **Nails**

1. Nails should be clean. False nails should not be worn allowed.
2. Nails should not extend past the fingertip to preventing scratching of the patient and to avoid the possibility of perforating surgical gloves.
3. If worn, nail polish should be unchipped.

I. **Exam Gloves**

1. Exam gloves are not to be washed.
2. Exam gloves should not be worn in the corridors of operating room while performing tasks that do not require PPE.
3. Exam gloves should be changed frequently between patient care.

VIII. RESPONSIBILITY: It is the responsibility of personnel working in the Russo Operating Room and Ambulatory Surgery Center to don and doff proper surgical attire.