

TITLE		No of pages
<b>Cleaning Shared Patient Equipment and other items</b>		2
Authorised by		Date Authorised
Mark Petty – Executive Director Ambulatory and Nursing Services Clinical Nursing Standards Committee		April 2004
		Revision Date
		April 2006
<b>DEFINITION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Cleaning:</b> The removal of soil and reduction in the number of microorganisms from a surface by a process such as washing in detergent without prior processing.</li> <li>▪ <b>Shared patient equipment</b> is equipment used on more than one patient.</li> </ul>	
<b>RATIONALE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Surveillance has shown that shared patient equipment can become contaminated with Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) and Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococci (VRE).</li> <li>▪ Decontaminating shared patient equipment may lead to a reduction in hospital-acquired infections.</li> <li>▪ Shared patient equipment must be decontaminated between each patient use. “Clean Between”.</li> </ul>	
<b>PRACTICE AUTHORISATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All staff are required to clean shared equipment between each patient use.</li> </ul>	
<b>EXPECTED OUTCOME</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Shared patient equipment will be cleaned between patient use.</li> <li>▪ The use of clean patient equipment will reduce the risk of patients developing infections in hospital.</li> </ul>	
<b>CLINICAL ALERT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Use alcohol impregnated wipes on visibly clean equipment.</li> <li>▪ Alcohol impregnated wipes should not be used:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ For hand hygiene, or skin cleansing.</li> <li>▪ With other chemicals,</li> <li>▪ If towelette dry</li> <li>▪ On equipment that should be sterile</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>EQUIPMENT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cleaning detergents such as HC90 and disposable cloths.</li> <li>▪ Isopropyl alcohol impregnated wipes. Eg. Prowipes</li> <li>▪ Prowipe brackets and clamps.</li> </ul>	
<b>PROCEDURE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clean shared patient equipment between use with either HC90 or Prowipes</li> <li>▪ Clean items such as computer keyboards, telephones, drug, IV and equipment trolleys DAILY and PRN.</li> <li>▪ Ensure Prowipes are stored in a cool place, and reseal cap to prevent wipes from drying.</li> <li>▪ Any new items purchased by clinical departments should be able to be cleaned. Fit with Prowipe brackets and clamps. Obtain items via E-Requisition.</li> <li>▪ Store equipment appropriately</li> </ul>	
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*Disclaimer: This Clinical Nursing Standard has been developed for Austin Health use and has been specifically designed for Austin Health circumstances. Printed versions can only be considered up-to-date for a period of 1 month after the printing date.*

	Endorsed by: Professor M. Lindsay Grayson (Director, Infectious Diseases Department)
REFERENCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ 'Draft Guideline for Environmental Infection Control in Healthcare Facilities', 2001. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC).</li><li>▪ Infection Control Manual, Austin Health. Revised Edition 2004.</li></ul>

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