

# Code of dress/restricted area attire

## 1 Applies to

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This procedure applies to Calvary Public Hospital Bruce (CPHB):

- Endoscopy Department
- Perioperative Department
- Central Sterile Services Department (CSSD)

## 2 Purpose

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Surgical scrub attire is worn as part of multiple activities designed to promote and maintain a high level of cleanliness, hygiene and infection control within the restricted area.

The purpose of this document is to:

1. Present requirements for the appropriate wearing of surgical scrub attire and other items worn within the restricted access area of a surgical environment.
2. Ensure that 'street clothes' are not introduced into restricted areas. Prevent the use of surgical scrub attire in other areas than restricted and semi restricted procedure areas.
3. Reduce the risk of spread of microorganisms from perioperative/endoscopy personnel both in and external to the Perioperative/Endoscopy Departments

This procedure does not address the sterile apparel worn during operating procedures. See procedure [Surgical Scrubbing Gowning and Gloving](#)

## 3 Responsibilities

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### **Responsible group 1: Infection Control Department Manager/Department Manager**

- Ensure the procedure is communicated to their staff and staff know where to find the procedure
- Monitor compliance to procedure in their area
- Provide staff with opportunities to attend education and training
- Ensure resources are available to adhere to the procedure
- Investigate any incidents of non-compliance to the procedure in RiskMan2
- Ensure that the procedure is up to date and is reviewed in line with the expiry date.

### **Responsible group 2: Employee/Particular department the document applies to**

- Comply with the procedure
- Notify non-compliance with the procedure to the manager and in RiskMan2.

## 4 Procedure

The use of the scrub suits /surgical scrubs (as defined in this procedure) are not permitted for use in any other areas than the restricted and semi restricted areas (as defined in this procedure).

### Scrub suits / Surgical scrub attire

When entering the restricted and semi restricted areas all persons should wear appropriate scrub suit attire.

1. Remove all outer garments, including shirts that will not be completely covered by the scrub suit and replace with freshly laundered scrub attire, provided by the health facility.
2. Scrub attire is to be changed daily or more frequently when wet or soiled.
3. Clean scrub attire must be stored in the appropriate storage compartments only and not in staff lockers.
4. Scrub suits should fit securely, so inadvertent contamination of sterile field does not occur.
5. Scrub suits must be laundered by the CPHB or CBPH linen contractor.
6. Long sleeved jackets supplied by the hospital must:
  - Have snap or button- front closure
  - Be removed before scrubbing
  - Not impede effective hand hygiene (i.e. sleeves must be pushed above elbow when performing hand hygiene and providing patient cares)
  - Changed daily, not stored in staff lockers and reused.
7. Visible identification badges must be secured to perioperative attire and ensure it is cleaned regularly.

### Scrub suits outside of restricted and semi restricted areas

Staff cannot leave the hospital in theatre scrubs. If leaving the restricted or semi restricted area in scrub attire it is essential to ensure:

1. The scrub suit and shoes are completely clean and free of blood and debris
2. A clean (unused) white cover gown (supplied by the hospital) is worn over the scrub suit. Cover gowns must be donned appropriately (i.e. tied at the back) and must be removed upon re-entrance to the restricted or semi restricted area (not worn into the procedural / operating rooms)
3. Surgical masks and overshoe covers (if used) must be removed before leaving the restricted or semi restricted area
4. Hair covers should not be removed before leaving the restricted or semi restricted area.

### Headwear

1. Head and facial hair, including sideburns, should be completely covered when entering the restricted areas.
2. Hair covers should be changed daily or when visibly wet or soiled.
3. Personally supplied headwear may only be worn under hospital supplied headwear.
4. Balaclavas must be worn for joint replacement surgery.
5. Bouffant or hood (balaclava) style hair coverings are preferred as skullcaps may not contain entire hair on side of head and nape of the neck.

### Footwear

1. Footwear must be clean and meet Work Health and Safety (WHS) standards (i.e. well-fitting with impervious soles, clean and well maintained, non-slip/have good traction, supportive of the foot and enclosed forefoot).
2. It is preferred that dedicated footwear for restricted areas is worn.
3. If shoes become soiled whilst in theatres, they must be cleaned prior to leaving the restricted areas.
4. Overshoe covers are not necessary unless shoes appear to be unclean.
5. If overshoes covers are worn as protective attire, hand hygiene must be performed after application. Following removal, overshoe covers must be immediately discarded into the appropriate receptacle and hand hygiene performed.

### Jewellery

All jewellery must be confined within scrub attire or removed.

1. All rings, wrist watches and bracelets must be removed before entering restricted and semi restricted areas.
2. Jewellery such as necklaces may be lost during a surgical procedure, so must be contained within scrub attire. Necklaces must be of a plain design (silver or gold metal chain). Necklaces with multi-part strings of beads, shells, wood, cotton and leather strands or other organic matter must not be worn.
3. Earrings must be stud or sleeper design only and confined within the scrub attire (i.e. covered by theatre headwear). Stud earrings should be plain without a stone in them as the stone might fall out during a surgical procedure.
4. Body piercing jewellery must be removed unless confined within the scrub attire.

### Fingernails

1. Good hand and fingernail hygiene is essential in restricted areas.
2. Fingernails should be short, clean and healthy.
3. Skin integrity should be intact.
4. Nail polish and nail enhancers must not be worn. Nail enhancers include anything applied to natural nails such as; artificial nails, tips, wraps, appliqués, acrylics, gels and any additional item applied to the nail surface.

Please refer to the [Hand Hygiene Procedure](#).

### Face Masks

Single use face masks must be worn for protection of the patient undergoing surgery, personal protection, and WHS reasons.

1. A level 3 single use face mask must be worn for all surgical procedures. A level 2 or level 3 single use face mask must be used for endoscopy procedures.

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2. Masks are worn in restricted areas where open sterile supplies and equipment are present or scrubbed personnel are located.
3. In addition Anaesthetic and Post Anaesthetic Care Unit staff must wear masks during intubation and extubation.
4. All staff in the restricted area must wear masks when power tools or irrigation under pressure (pulse lavage) is being used.
5. The surgeon, instrument nurse and circulating nurse involved in the administration of cytotoxic drugs must wear a particulate respirator N95 mask as outlined in the policy [Cytotoxic Medication Administration in the perioperative environment](#)
6. Masks should be removed by handling ties only. Mask should be immediately discarded and hand hygiene performed.
7. Masks must not be saved by hanging around the neck or carried in the pocket- they are a single use item only.
8. Masks must be removed before leaving the restricted area.

### Protective Eyewear

Protective eyewear with side shields are provided by the hospital and must be worn for personal protection and Work Health and Safety reasons.

1. All personnel who are attending to a surgical procedure, or during intubation and extubation must wear protective eyewear.
2. Protective eyewear includes safety goggles or masks with splash shields. Prescription glasses without side shields are not considered as protective eyewear.
3. Laser goggles meeting Australian Safety Standards and appropriate to the laser being used are provided by the hospital and must be worn whilst laser is in use.

## 5 Related Calvary Documents

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- [Cytotoxic Medication Administration in the perioperative environment](#)
- [Hand Hygiene Procedure](#)
- [Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\)](#)
- [Surgical Scrubbing Gowning and Gloving](#)

## 6 Definitions

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- **Level 2 Single Use Face Mask**- provide >98% bacterial and particle filtration efficiency at 0.1 micron and 120 mmHg fluid penetration resistance.
- **Level 3 Single Use Face Masks**- provide >98% bacterial and particle filtration efficiency at 0.1 micron and 160 mmHg fluid penetration resistance.

- **Restricted Area:** A designated space contained within the semi-restricted area and accessible only through a semi-restricted area. The restricted area includes the operating and other rooms in which surgical or other invasive procedures are performed.
- **Restricted Area Attire-** For the purpose of this procedure in the context of CPHB Restricted Area Attire refer to the use of scrub suits /surgical scrubs, hair covers, surgical masks, shoe covers (if required) and protective eyewear within the restricted and semi restricted procedure areas.
- **Semi-Restricted Area:** The peripheral support areas of the Perioperative Department or Endoscopy Department. The area may include storage areas for equipment and clean and sterile supplies; work areas for processing instruments; sterilization processing room(s); scrub sink areas; corridors leading from the unrestricted area to the restricted areas of the surgical suite; and the entrances to locker rooms, preoperative admission area, the PACU, and sterile processing.
- **Scrub suits /surgical scrubs/scrub attire** -For the purpose of this procedure in the context of the restricted and semi restricted procedure areas within CPHB, scrub suit/surgical scrubs refer to the navy blue scrubs provided and laundered by the CPHB contracted linen supplier.

## 7 References

- Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses 2017, Surgical attire, viewed 30 May 2017, <https://www.aorn.org/guidelines/clinical-resources/clinical-faqs/attire>
- Australian College of Operating Room Nurses Ltd 2016, *Standards for Perioperative Nursing in Australia*, 14<sup>th</sup> Ed, ACORN, Adelaide, South Australia.
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- Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Cth), viewed 30 May 2017, <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2016C00887>
- *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011* (Cth), viewed 30 May 2017, <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2011L02664>