

Purpose:

OR Scrubs are provided to staff and medical staff, based on the following rationale, which is supported by Island Health’s Infection Prevention & Control and Occupational Health & Safety departments, to:

- Limit the introduction of organisms from homes and the community into areas where a high degree of sanitization and sterility is required (for example, operating rooms, medical device reprocessing department, etc);
- Ensure hospital employees who are at the greatest risk of blood and body fluid contamination in their daily work can get changed into clean scrubs while working, and expecting those staff to change back into street clothes when leaving hospital property;
- Regulate access to hospital provided scrubs so they are available to those who need them.

Scope:

- Audience : All Staff and Medical Staff
- Environment
 - Island-Wide
 - Care Environment: As noted in 1.1

Outcomes:

Appropriate use of Island Health resources and availability of stock

1.0 Distribution Areas

Staff and medical staff who work in identified areas (see list below 1.1) should wear hospital provided green OR scrubs. Hospital provided green OR scrubs are not to be worn outside of the hospital facility, due to real or perceived, concern with transmission of infection risk. They are not to be taken home as staying on site allows scrubs to be laundered and available to staff and medical staff who need to wear them.

1.1 Hospital provided scrub will be provided to the following areas for staff and medical staff:

- Biomedical Engineering
- Coronary Care Unit (CCU), Cardiovascular Unit (CVU)
- Cystotomy
- Day Care – OR only
- Emergency Department (ED)
- Endoscopy
- Heart Catheterization Lab/Electrophysiology Lab
- Intensive Care Unit
- Island Medical Program students
- Labour and Delivery

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Green Operating Room (OR) Scrubs

8.1.1G

Guidelines are recommended actions allowing for professional judgement



- Laboratory for autopsy and grossing procedures and bone marrow procedures only
- Medical Device and Reprocessing
- Medical Imaging – Angio team and limited quantity for OR
- Neonatal Intensive Care Unit – OR only
- Operating Room (OR)
 - As well as parents, attending the OR with their children
- Pharmacy – Aseptic Compounding Service and Centralized Intravenous Admixture (CIVA) only
- Post Anesthetic Recovery (PAR)
- Respiratory (Blue Scrubs) – OR only
- Surgical Ophthalmology
- Surgical Treatment Room – for invasive procedures and OR only

1.2 Personal scrubs may be worn in other areas but will not be supplied or laundered by the health authority.

1.3 Green OR scrubs are not to be laundered at home as this takes them out of circulation for staff who need to wear them.

1.4 Green OR scrubs do not provide protection from blood or body fluids or infectious disease. Personal protective equipment is provided by Island Health (for example, impervious gowns) and must be worn over clothing when splashes to skin or clothing are possible.

1.5 Hospital provided green OR scrubs that are visibly soiled or wet must be changed. Personal clothing and/or personally purchased scrub uniforms that become contaminated with blood or body fluids should be changed. Clean hospital provided scrubs will be provided, if available, on a temporary basis upon approval by the employee’s supervisor. Replacement hospital provided scrubs are to be returned to the hospital laundry the following business day.

1.6 Adequate supplies of hospital provided green OR scrubs will be provided to designated areas on a regular basis by linen distribution as per department quotas.

2.0 Related Island Health Standards

[Infection Prevention and Control](#) intranet page

[Occupational Health and Safety](#) intranet page

[Island Health Reprocessing Policy Manual](#)

[Operating Room](#) intranet page

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