PURPOSE
To decrease the opportunity for personnel to serve as a potential source of infection and to enhance the safety of the work environment.

POLICY
The surgical attire of personnel performing invasive procedures in designated areas adheres to the principles of safety, infection control and professional standards.

SCOPE
This policy applies to all employees, medical and professional staff, and students of Cooley Dickinson Hospital who enter the Semi-Restricted and Restricted areas of the Operating Room (OR), Childbirth Center (CBC) OR Room 8, and Cardiovascular Suite/Interventional Radiology (CV/IR). It also applies to healthcare industry representatives who are present and consult during procedures in the OR and Cardiovascular Suite.

DEFINITIONS
A. Restricted areas are:
   1. Inner core of the Operating Room and every OR Suite
   2. Childbirth Center Room 8 and sterile supply room adjacent to Room 8
   3. Procedure room for Cardiovascular Suite

B. Semi-restricted areas are:
   1. Surgery (OR): everything past the red line on the floor, the surrounding support and storage areas, by scrub sinks, OR corridors, etc. Does not include the break room or offices.
   2. Central Supply and Processing (CSP): Everything past the second set of double doors. Does not include anteroom (where boxes are unpacked), offices or pump room.
   3. CBC: Childbirth Center - hallway outside the C/Section Room #8 within the red lines

C. Surgical attire – non-sterile apparel designated for the OR practice setting that includes two-piece pantsuits, cover jackets, head coverings, shoes, masks, protective eyewear, and other protective barriers.

D. Jumpsuit – one piece suit that completely covers street clothes and can be worn in semi-restricted areas of the OR suite. Also known as coveralls or bunny suit.

Scrub apparel, hair and foot coverings are provided by the hospital (dedicated footwear is provided by the employee).

A. Scrub apparel
   1. All personnel entering surgical restricted areas are attired in freshly hospital laundered surgical attire.
2. Scrubs worn outside the hospital are changed before entering the restricted area.

3. It is not necessary to wear a cover gown over scrubs to go to other areas of the hospital.

4. Persons from other departments may don a coverall suit designed to cover outside apparel totally.

5. Non-scrubbed personnel, including Environmental Services staff, Maintenance staff, etc. should wear clean, long sleeved jackets that are buttoned or snapped closed. Hospital supplied warm-up jackets/scrub jackets are laundered and changed daily, at the completion of each shift or when they become visible soiled.

6. Rings are removed from the hands. Other jewelry (watches, earrings, bracelets, necklaces are removed or totally confined within the scrub attire).

7. Other garments are contained completely within or covered by the scrub attire (e.g. T-shirts or dickie tops but no long sleeves under the scrub tops).

8. The top of the two-piece pant suit should be secured at the waist, tuck ed in, or fit close to the body.

9. At no time are street clothes or white lab coats worn within the surgical restricted areas.

10. Gown and gloves used during a procedure are removed before leaving the procedure room.

B. Head Cover

Personnel will cover head and facial hair, including sideburns and necklines, when in the semi-restricted and restricted areas of the surgical suite.

1. Head and facial hair, including bangs, sideburns, beards, and necklines should be covered in both the restricted and semi-restricted area. Caps that fail to cover side hair/hair at neck are not permissible.

2. A person with a bald or shaved head must wear a head cover.

3. Personal cloth hair coverings are laundered at home; a bouffant
cap must be worn over the cloth cap.

4. Approved disposable caps or hoods are worn and discarded daily.

5. Surgical caps or hoods are not worn outside the surgical area or are replaced upon return.

6. Head coverings are not removed within the restricted area.

7. Beards have to be covered.

8. Earrings must be taped to the person and contained within the cap.

9. Nose, lip or brow piercings are not allowed.

C. Surgical Masks

All personnel in restricted areas of the operating room suite will wear a mask when open sterile items and equipment are present.

1. A fresh, clean surgical mask should be worn for each procedure. The mask should be replaced whenever it becomes wet or soiled.

2. Surgical masks must be put on before performing the hand scrub.

3. Masks are worn at all times when sterile items are open.

4. Masks are not necessary for clean procedures such as cystoscopy or endoscopy.

5. Masks are either on or off. They are not saved by hanging around the neck.

6. When removing the masks, only the strings are touched in order to reduce contamination of the hands.

D. Fingernails should be kept short, clean, natural and healthy.

1. Artificial nails, acrylics and gels are not worn.

2. Scrubbed personnel (Surgeons, First Assistants, and Scrub Techs) may not wear nail polish. Circulators may wear nail polish as long as it’s fresh (no more than 4 days) and not chipped.
E. Eye Protection

1. Goggles, face shield or other protective eyewear are worn at all times by all personnel at the field. If glasses are worn, side shields are used.

2. Protective eyewear for scope procedures: the physician uses goggles/face mask until the scope is in place. In the case of binocular scopes, the ocular cups on the microscope serve as protection.

F. Sterile Surgical Gloves

1. Gloves are selected and worn according to task to be performed (e.g. sterile versus non-sterile). The team member changes to a new pair of gloves as soon as possible if there is any suspicion of glove perforation or contamination.

2. Gloves are changed between patient contacts or after contact with contaminated items when task is completed.

3. Hand hygiene is performed after removing gloves.

4. The Centers for Disease control and Prevention (CDC), the American college of Orthopedic Surgeons, and the American College of Surgeons support double-gloving during invasive procedures.

G. Shoes

1. Shoes are clean with no visible blood / body fluids and provide protection for the feet.

2. Fluid resistant shoe covers are worn when it can be reasonable anticipated that spills or splashes may occur.

3. Hosiery/socks must be worn.

4. Either shoes dedicated to the peri-operative area or shoe covers are worn in restricted areas. Persons from other departments entering semi-restricted or restricted areas will wear shoe covers.

H. Jumpsuits

Persons from other departments entering semi restricted or restricted areas for a brief time for a specific purpose may don a coverall suit
designed to totally cover outside apparel.

**SEARCH WORDS**
- Restricted, semi-restricted, scrubs, hair covers, surgical masks, jumpsuits

**REGULATIONS**
The Joint Commission Standard IC .02.03.01, Elements of Performance 1
Peri-operative Standards and Recommended Practices, AORN. 2014

**POLICY OWNER**
Infection Prevention Manager

**STAKEHOLDER APPROVAL**
Lorraina, Smith-Zuba, Director of Peri-operative Services
Deborah Rugen, Director of Childbirth Center
Bruce Moore, Manager of Cardiovascular Services

**FINAL APPROVAL BY**
Medical Director of Infection Prevention

**MOST RECENT REVIEW/REVISION DATE**
Date of original approval: March 2006
Review/Revision Date: March 2015

Signatures

____________________________________________     ______________
Infection Prevention Manager – Linda Riley (Date)

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Medical Director of Infection Prevention – Joanne Levin (Date)