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IX0500: Soiled Utility Rooms

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 2008

REVISED DATE: November 2010

REVIEWED DATE: February 2015, October 2019

1.0 PURPOSE

To minimize the risk of infection transmission to patient/residents/clients and staff from soiled equipment, linen and waste.

2.0 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

2.1 Soiled Utility Rooms shall

1. have counter-top ,cupboard finishes and flooring which are smooth, non-porous, seam free, and tolerant of routine cleaning with hospital grade cleaners
2. have walls that are smooth and impact resistant where heavy carts are exchanged in the space
3. be designed with closed cupboard storage to keep clean items free from splash contamination i.e. cleaning supplies, personal protective equipment(PPE) ,bedpans, urinals, basins, incontinence supplies, and specimen containers (or arrange the room to provide spatial separation of approximately 2 meters between clean and dirty sides)
4. be secure with restricted access to clinical and support services staff only- with doors kept closed
5. only be used for temporary storage of soiled medical equipment that will be removed once cleaned
6. have a hand hygiene sink separate from the utility/cleaning sink
7. have a utility sink for rinsing of gross soil or debris from reusable devices
8. spray wands shall not be used for rinsing items- if they are already installed in an existing space undergoing renovation they should be removed
9. contain a human waste management system designed to contain any splash and the controls located so as not to expose staff to contaminants i.e. Verna care, Deko, Tornado
10. Provide adequate space
 - to separate waste into health care facility approved covered, leak proof containers i.e. soiled linen , general waste, biohazardous waste, etc
 - hold soiled linen and medical equipment/devices for return to medical device reprocessing (MDRD)
 - to clean soiled patient equipment i.e. IV poles, commodes etc
 - to store carts that are used to move the soiled material from the room

2.2. Items that **should not be kept in a Soiled Utility Room** include:

Skin antiseptics/cleansers.	Sterile items such as wound dressings.
Clean linen	Kleenex boxes.
Unused supplies or equipment	Food or drink
Equipment that has been already cleaned and disinfected	Personal hygiene supplies (soaps, mouth care products, lotions).

3.0 REFERENCES

1. Canadian health care facilities- CSA standards Z8000; Table of common requirements. pg 511
<http://insidenet.interiorhealth.ca/infoResources/library/Documents/Canadian%20health%20care%20facilities%20CSA%20Standards.pdf> July 2018
2. PICNet best practices for environmental cleaning for prevention and control of infections in all health care settings <https://www.picnet.ca/wp-content/uploads/British-Columbia-Best-Practices-for-Environmental-Cleaning-for-Prevention-and-Control-of-Infections-in-All-Healthcare-Settings-and-Programs.pdf> 2016