

Office of Origin: Department of Hospital Epidemiology and Infection Prevention (HEIP)

I. PURPOSE

- A. To ensure that patients and others (siblings/visitors) are provided and have access to clean toys.
- B. To reduce communicable disease transmission risks related to toys, among patients seen in inpatient and ambulatory locations.
- C. To ensure proper procedures for cleaning and disinfecting toys and play equipment.
- D. To outline infection prevention standards and practices followed by Child Life staff, volunteers, nursing staff, clinic staff, Hospitality, and other designated persons.

II. REFERENCES

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- B. Sehulster LM, Chinn RYW, Arduino MJ, Carpenter J, Donlan R, Ashford D, Besser R, Fields B, McNeil MM, Whitney C, Wong S, Juranek D, Cleveland J. Guidelines for environmental infection control in health-care facilities. Recommendations from CDC and the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC). Chicago IL; American Society for Healthcare Engineering/American Hospital Association; 2004.
- C. Siegel JD, Rhinehart E, Jackson M, Chiarello L, and the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee, 2007 Guideline for Isolation Precautions: Preventing Transmission of Infectious Agents in Healthcare Settings.
- D. Tomblyn, M et al. (2009). Guidelines for Preventing Infectious Complications among Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation Recipients: A Global Perspective. *American Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation*, 1143-1238.
- E. <https://ucsfpolicies.ucsf.edu/Childrens%20Hospital/ChildLife/InfectionControlforChildLifeProgrammingSpaces.pdf>
- F. <https://infectioncontrol.ucsfmedicalcenter.org/sites/g/files/tkssra4681/f/wysiwyg/Sec%201%201%20STD%20%20Trans%20Precautions-2019-01%20-%20FINAL.pdf>
- G. https://infectioncontrol.ucsfmedicalcenter.org/sites/g/files/tkssra4681/f/Sec%205%205%20%20Agents%20Available%20for%20Disinfection%20and%20Antisepsis%202016%20FINAL_0.pdf
- H. <http://manuals.ucsfmedicalcenter.org/NursingDept/NeoPedsProcedures/NPProcsPDF/PDFsafter12-29-2003/BoneMarrowTransplantPediatric.pdf>

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. Hospital-approved disinfectant: EPA-registered disinfectants approved by the institution's Infection Control Committee for routine cleaning and disinfection. These disinfectants are to

- be used according to the manufacturer's recommendations including amount, dilution, and appropriate contact time to remove pathogens effectively.
- B. Stationary toys: Toys affixed to tables, walls, ceilings, floors, casework, or that are not easily moveable by the patient.
 - C. Moveable toys: Individual, transportable toys including but not limited to books, dolls, blocks, and games.
 - D. Therapeutic items: Toys and items used for distraction and/or instruction (e.g., coping kits, CVC dolls, radiology play equipment).
 - E. School materials: Textbooks from the UCSF Child Life Marie Wattis Schoolroom and/or the patient's own school, and accompanying school items including pencils, calculators, and rulers.
 - F. Special books: Rare or out of print books that cannot be gifted to the patient.

IV. POLICY

- A. Toy Selection and Use
 - 1. Toys provided for patient use are to be made of materials that can be easily cleaned (e.g., plastic, vinyl, metals, and finished woods with a polymer, water-proof coating).
 - 2. Water-retaining toys are prohibited. (exception: closed water systems, e.g., liquid filled wands)
 - 3. The following types of toys are to be avoided for communal rotation. Toys in this category are to be single patient use and given to the patient to take home.
 - a. Soft, stuffed toys
 - b. Toys that are difficult to clean and dry
 - 4. Card and board games must be laminated, so they can be easily wiped down and disinfected.
 - 5. Only hard surface toys are to be brought into Enteric Contact isolation rooms. *No soft or cloth toys permitted.*
 - 6. Infants, toddlers, and children that put toys in their mouths are not to share toys.
 - 7. Toys must not be exchanged between children on inpatient units. Toys are to be returned to the playroom or designated dirty toy storage containers on the pediatric units after use.
- B. Toy Cleaning Responsibility
 - 1. Toy cleaning is the responsibility of all departments housing their own toys.
 - 2. Child life staff, volunteers and interns shall be responsible for cleaning and monitoring toys and materials that are used in Child Life Services programming spaces or distributed to the units by Child Life Services. All toys returning from patient rooms will be cleaned prior to being placed back into rotation.
- C. General Toy Cleaning and Care by Type

1. Clean stationary toys with hospital approved disinfectant at least once per day when in use and when visibly soiled.
 2. Handle moveable toys in one of four ways after each use and when visibly soiled:
 - a. Clean with hospital-approved disinfectant.
 - b. Wash in automated dishwasher (dishwasher-safe toys only).
 - c. Give to the patient to take home.
 - d. Discard.
 3. Soft toys (e.g., fabric, stuffed, including mobiles with stuffed toys) are single-patient use only. On inpatient units, soft toys are to be labeled with the patient's name. *Communal soft toys are not permitted.*
 - a. *Exception:* Soft medical play/instructional dolls such as those used to demonstrate medical procedures (e.g., insertion of catheters) to children for educational purposes must be disassembled and cleaned after each use. See recommendation for therapeutic items below.
 4. Therapeutic items must be cleaned after each use.
 5. Books are not to be shared or placed into communal rotation on the units. *Books in Child Life spaces must be disinfected after each use and are not to leave the Child Life space.*
 - a. Exception: Special books that cannot be gifted to the patient must be treated in the following way on the unit for read aloud activities:
 - i. Bring book into the patient's room inside of a plastic bag.
 - ii. Remove the book from the bag and read aloud to the patient. Do not allow the patient to touch the book and do not set the book down in the patient's environment
 - iii. Wipe the outside of the book with the hospital approved disinfectant.
 - iv. Exit room and allow book to dry before returning it to the plastic bag.
 6. School materials
 - a. Any supplies from the UCSF Child Life Marie Wattis Schoolroom must be new.
 - b. School items (e.g., pencils, calculators, rulers, plastic shapes, etc.) from the patient's own school must be cleaned with hospital-approved disinfectant prior to being taken into the patient's room.
 7. Large toys and play equipment must be cleaned with a hospital-approved disinfectant before and after each use.
- D. Considerations for Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT) Patients
1. All toys given to Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT) patients must be new and cleaned with hospital-approved disinfectant prior to being brought into the patient's room.
 2. Toys brought from home must be treated appropriately per unit policy prior to being brought into the room and cleaned after each use with hospital-approved disinfectant.
- E. Considerations for Patients on Transmission Based Precautions

1. Toys used in Droplet, Contact, or Airborne isolation rooms may remain with the patient throughout hospitalization or visit, then handled as in section C above.
2. Toys from Enteric Contact isolation rooms must remain with the patient throughout hospitalization or visit, but must be handled in one of three ways upon discharge:
 - a. Discarded.
 - b. Sent home with patient.
 - c. Sent back to Child Life Services for cleaning (*only for dishwasher-safe toys/items*).
 - i. Removed from isolation room and placed into a bag labeled "EC".
 - ii. Placed in bin located in Soiled Utility for pick up by Child Life Services.
 - iii. Cleaned in dishwasher by Child Life Services.

V. PROCEDURES

A. Cleaning with Hospital-approved Disinfectant

1. Wipe toys with hospital-approved disinfectant.
2. Toys with a high likelihood of being mouthed are to be additionally rinsed with water or placed in the dishwasher after disinfection.

B. Cleaning with Soap and Water

1. Wash with soap and water using friction.
2. Rinse with water and dry.

VI. RESPONSIBILITY

- A. Hospital Epidemiology and Infection Prevention (HEIP)

VII. HISTORY OF POLICY

- A. Revised 4/01, 4/04, 11/07, 1/13, 2/13, 7/16, 1/20

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