

# HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

## ISOLATION CARTS

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Effective Date:	August 2002	Policy No:	IC 007A
Cross Referenced:		Origin:	Infection Control
Reviewed Date:	September 2010	Authority:	Edward McManus, M.D.
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**PURPOSE:** To provide a consolidation of isolation supplies and equipment in a functional and unobtrusive manner.

**POLICY:** Isolation Carts will be used for all patients on **Isolation Precautions: Airborne, Contact, Droplet, and Reverse** (immunosuppressed). The rolling carts are stocked with disposable isolation supplies and personnel protective equipment for use by HRMC employees and Visitors.

**PROCEDURE:**

**RESPONSIBILITIES: NURSING UNIT (S):**

1. **When a patient who needs isolation precautions is admitted, the staff assigned to the patients will get an isolation cart from the unit's storage room.**
2. When a **patient is discharged** the Isolation Cart is to be returned to the Unit storage area after cleaning and restocking. **It is not to be put in the dirty utility room.**
3. Restocking of the isolation cart will be done, on each shift, by the staff assigned to the following rooms: (Responsible for stocking and cleaning **ALL** the carts on the unit)
  - 3N -316
  - 3S – 340
  - ITU –317
  - OB – (to be assigned by Manager)
  - PACU – (to be assigned by Manager)
4. **Do not dispose of any remaining items that are inside the Isolation Cart.** The remaining supplies are to be kept in the cabinet along with the **sphygomanometer gauge that has been wiped with a hospital approved germicide.**
5. If an Isolation/Precaution **patient is moved to another nursing unit** the cart is **not** to be transported with the patient, the unit the patient is being transferred to will use their own cart. The stethoscope, blood pressure cuff, sphygomanometer gauge and any other items dedicated or belonging to the patient will be **red bagged** and transported with the patient.

**NOTE:** The Nursing staff will wipe down the exterior of the Isolation Cart with a hospital approved germicidal wipe, restock the cart, and return it to the unit storage area.

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6. **Items in the Isolation Cart dedicated to the Isolation/Precaution patient only.** These dedicated items are to be kept in the patient's room. They **are not** to be put in the hallway or taken from the patient's room.
7. **Disposable dedicated items are to be red bagged after use and disposed of in the proper manner.**
8. **The only Non-disposable item is the sphygmomanometer gauge. Before the cart is put back into the storage room, it is to be wiped with a disposable germicidal wipe and placed back in the cart.**

#### Unit Staff Responsible for carts:

1. Clean exterior and interior of the cart- with a hospital approved germicide.
2. Restocking of any cabinet that is returned to the Unit storage area.
3. Ordering the Supplies and Personnel Protective Equipment as needed to restock the cabinets
4. Daily check each cabinet being used and restock as necessary.
5. Restocking of stethoscope, blood pressure cuff, and goggles is **ONLY** done when a patient has been discharged and the cart is being restocked for use by a new patient.

#### CONTENTS of ISOLATION CART

Biohazard bags	Disposable blood pressure cuff
Disposable stethoscope	Goggles
Gowns	Latex free tourniquets
Masks (surgical and N-95)	Sphygmomanometer gauge.
Temp-dots	