

HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

BED BUG MANAGEMENT POLICY

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Effective Date:	April 2012	Policy No:	IC025
Cross Referenced:	CDC Fact Sheet	Origin:	Infection Prevention
Reviewed Date:	March 2012	Authority:	Infection Prevention
Revised Date:		Page:	1 of 4

PURPOSE:

To identify the patient with bed bugs; outline control measures to prevent the spread of bed bugs to patients and staff.

DEFINITIONS:

Bed Bugs are approximately 3/16 to 1/5 of an inch with flattened oval wingless bodies. They are clear in color prior to their first blood meal, and then they take on a rusty red color. Females generally lay up to 200 eggs in their 10 month life span. Bed Bugs like warm, dark places and tend to hide during the day. They are commonly found in mattresses, box springs, bed frames, and even cracked furniture, loosened wall paper and upholstered furniture.

POLICY:

- Patients reported to have an infestation of bed bugs or a rash that is consistent with bed bug bites shall be managed as outlined until confirmed or ruled out.
- Any personal that suspects bed bug infestation shall report their findings to their supervisor immediately upon suspicion.
- Environmental Services will be notified of all bed bug infestation as outlined.

EQUIPMENT: Trash bags provided by Environmental Services-(facility specific)

PROCEDURE: The following procedure will be utilized:

A. Report of bed bugs, no bugs found, no bites found

1. Routine environmental cleaning procedure to be followed.
2. RN to continue to assess patient periodically for any signs of infestation
3. Additional precautions not needed at this time.

B. Report of bed bugs. No bed bugs found. Bites/rash on patient

1. RN to report rash to attending physician for medical examination and treatment recommendations.
2. Environmental to clean room thoroughly.
3. RN to continue to assess patient periodically for any signs of infestation.
4. Additional precautions not needed at this time.

C. Report of bed bugs. Bed bugs found on patient/clothing/personal items with or without bites.

I. INPATIENTS

1. Enter order for **Contact Precautions** and place sign on door.
2. All staff and family/visitor to don gloves and gown on entry to room.
3. Charge RN to notify Environmental **Supervisor & Admissions/Bed Management**. Room to be blocked for admissions by Admissions/Bed Management until Environmental Supervisor/exterminator arrives.

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4. If there is a roommate, examine for any signs of bed bug infestation & if no activity, transfer roommate.
5. Save bug in specimen cup for identification by environmental supervisor and or exterminator.
6. Decontaminate patient immediately with soap and water. Place patient on new bed surface (i.e. bed, stretcher) and transfer to "clean room". Do not remove actively infested furniture including bed surface, if applicable, until environmental supervisor and/or exterminator thoroughly inspects and decontaminates furnishings and room.
7. Patient's personal belongings (clothes, shoes, bags, etc.) are double bagged and tightly sealed with tape labeled "Do Not Open" and sent home with family/caregiver for home laundering or discard.
8. Environmental Services to bag and tightly seal all trash in durable bag.
9. Bedding and linen should be contained and covered in linen receptacle in room and removed as soon as possible. Double bag and seal linen bag before removing from room.
10. Curtains shall be removed and laundered and the patient room cycle cleaned at discharge or transfer.
11. Environmental Supervisor to call **Department/Unit or Bed Manager** when room has been cycle cleaned and cleared by exterminator.
12. Environmental/Bed Manager to notify Admitting when room is cleared.

II. OUTPATIENTS

1. Manager will notify Housekeeping supervisor.
2. If possible, save bug in specimen cup for identification by housekeeping or exterminator.
3. Move patient away from other patients. If possible, provide a wooden or metal chair for patient. Restrict patient movement.
4. Environmental Services must clean equipment and furniture after discharge.

D. Discontinuation of Isolation for infested patients-

Isolation may be discontinued when the patient has been bathed/ room inspected and no further evidence of infestation is present and 24 hours of observation indicates no further presence.

DOCUMENTATION: Patient Care Record_

INFECTION CONTROL: Contact Precautions

SAFETY: As outlined in policy

REFERENCES: Center for Disease Control and Prevention;

<http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/bedbugs/faqs.html>

LOCATION: *Infection Prevention Shared Drive*

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STAFF FAQs



What are Bed Bugs?

Bed Bugs are approximately 3/16 to 1/5 of an inch with flattened oval wingless bodies. They are clear in color prior to their first blood meal, and then they take on a rusty red color. Females generally lay up to 200 eggs in their 10 month life span. Bed Bugs like warm, dark places and tend to hide during the day. They are commonly found in mattresses, box springs, bed frames, and even cracked furniture, loosened wall paper and upholstered furniture.

What do Bed Bug bites look like?

A bed bug bites its host by injecting an anesthetic and an anticoagulant which prevents the person from feeling the bite. A swollen reddened welt like area will soon appear that may begin to itch. These bites tend to appear in a line or triangle formation. Bed Bugs do not burrow and do not live under the skin. They usually bite at night while people are sleeping.



Do Bed Bugs carry disease?

Bed bugs are not known to transmit disease. However, these bites can lead to secondary infections of the skin such as impetigo and can cause severe allergic reactions to sensitive individuals. Bed Bugs also cause stress and mental anguish due to the negative connotation associated with them.

How do Bed Bugs travel?

Bed Bugs are transported from an infested area to a non-infested area when they attach to someone's clothing, crawl inside luggage, bedding or furniture that is brought inside a home, office or building. Bed bugs can survive for weeks to months without feeding. They do not fly or jump but can move quickly over floors, walls and other surfaces.

How are bed bugs treated?

Treatment requires meticulous removal and pest control of the infected environment/

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person. Clothing/ personal items should be placed in a dryer on high heat for 30 minutes.

Decision Grid for Bed Bug Management

Report of bed bugs, no bugs found, no bites found	Clean room thoroughly. Continue to inspect patient periodically. No additional precautions needed at this time.
Report of bed bugs. No bed bugs found. Bites/rash on patient	Clean room thoroughly. Continue to inspect patient periodically. No additional precautions needed at this time.
Report of bed bugs. Bed bugs found on patient/clothing/personal items with or without bites	Enter order for Contact Precautions and place sign on door. All staff and family/visitors don gloves and gown on entry. Notify Housekeeping supervisor. Save bug in specimen cup for identification by exterminator. Decontaminate patient immediately by shower. Once confirmed: Exterminator to inspect remove furniture, mattresses etc and remove if necessary. Patient's belongings (clothes, shoes, bags, etc) should be removed and double bagged and tightly sealed and sent home with family. Bag and tightly seal all trash in special durable bag obtained from Housekeeping. Bedding and linen should be contained and covered in linen receptacle in room. The curtains should be removed and laundered with hot water (120 degrees recommended) and room cycle cleaned.