

Section: Division of Nursing
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PROCEDURE

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HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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OR
(Scope)

TITLE: WELLS JOHNSON WHISPERATOR SET UP AND USE

PURPOSE: To outline nursing responsibilities in the setup and use of the Wells Johnson Whisperator.

SUPPORTIVE DATA: The Wells Johnson Whisperator is used in the operative setting for liposuction cases.

EQUIPMENT LIST: The Whisperator is a high powered suction system. When the system is connected, the air flow will be from the tip of the cannula and follow through the tubing, collection system, overflow trap, bacterial filter and finally the pumps. Once material is applied to the end of the cannula, the vacuum pumps evacuate the air from the lines, creating a vacuum pulling material in the same direction as the airflow. Aspirated material continues to the collection system under normal suction until the cannula is exposed to air again. Vacuum and volume controls are marked on the Whisperator and can be adjusted by turning the corresponding knobs.

Components:

1. Whisperator
2. Canister Holder
3. Vacuum Gauge
4. Power Cord
5. Foot Switch
6. One Sterile Disposable Tubing
7. Bacterial Filters
8. Overflow Trap with one 9" and one 6" silicone tube
9. Disposable Canister

Set Up And Operation:

1. Open the accessory box and locate the power cord and foot switch. Plug the foot switch into the Whisperator. Plug the power cord into the Whisperator, then into the outlet.
2. Locate the vacuum gauge and connect the item to the quick connect lock on top of the Whisperator.
3. Turn the power switch and the foot switch on.
4. Test the unit; place a finger over the main suction hose coming directly out of the top of the Whisperator. Note the reading of the vacuum gauge. After checking the vacuum, turn the Whisperator off.
5. Place the Overflow Trap between the 4 small metal pegs on the top panel of the Whisperator. The arrow on the top of the overflow trap should point toward the vacuum gauge.
6. Connect the Bacterial Filter to one end of the Overflow Trap using the 6" silicone tube. Connect the other end of the Bacterial filter to the main suction hose. The Bacterial Filter is bi-directional; therefore the item can be placed in line either way.
7. Place canister on top panel of Whisperator. Insert soft canister into hard canister. Plug the red hose on the canister into the top of the liner lid on the port marked vacuum. Attach the 9" piece of silicone tubing from the overflow trap to the red spout on the side of the canister. The sterile aspiration tubing will connect to the port labeled, patient.
8. The unit is now ready for operation and the power should be turned on.

Trouble Shooting:

No Suction:

1. Turn vacuum and volume control knobs to high. If one or both knobs are on low, there will be no noticeable suction.
2. Check for a collapsing liner/broken canister. This may cause the aspirated material to overflow into the overflow trap.
3. Remove bacterial filter and place a finger over the main suction hose. If there is no suction, turn the unit off, remove finger from hose, wait a moment, then turn the unit on again.

Note: Before starting the suction procedure, let the Whisperator go to full vacuum when switched on. During operation, if the Whisperator is momentarily turned off, let the vacuum gauge indicator return to "0" before restarting the machine. All the air must clear from the vacuum lines before all the pumps will start again. Failure to following this procedure can result in the loss of vacuum.

Overflow Situation:

1. The overflow trap is designed to catch aspirated material, which has by-passed, or overflowed from the main collection canister. The fluid entering the trap will cause the ball inside the plastic jar to float up into the bell shaped tube, which will cause the vacuum to stop. If an overflow occurs find the cause of the problem and correct it. Three causes are, collection system is full, canister is broken or the collection system was not set up properly.

Pump Motor Overheats:

1. A resettable circuit breaker is installed on the right side near the powercord outlet. If there is a voltage surge or the pump motor overheats, the circuit breaker will pop out. To reset, turn the Whisperator off, push in the circuit breaker button, and turn the Whisperator on. If the unit fails to start, the Whisperator may require a cool down period.

Baceterial Filter

1. The circulating room OR nurse must record use of the machine on tag attached to the machine. This is done by recording the date used.
2. After 10 uses of the machine the bacterial filter must be replaced.