

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* ADDENDUM \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

HACKETTSTOWN COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Division of Nursing

Index: 7420.000  
Addendum: #1  
Issue Date: December 9, 1992  
Review Date: May 7, 2002

---

**TITLE: TRAFFIC PATTERNS IN THE SURGICAL SUITE**

1. The OR scheduling office is the central administration control point. The OR Clerical Secretary or designee will keep track of the number and intensity of personnel within the suite at all times. To minimize interruptions during surgery, this point will be used for collecting messages and transmitting information between the surgical team and outside areas.
2. Movement of patients to through and from the surgical suite will be along the most direct route that prevents cross-contamination and shields patients from potentially upsetting sights and sounds. Patients entering the suite will have clean linens and gowns and wear an OR hat.
3. Personnel traffic from unrestricted areas to the OR Suite will be through the locker rooms.
4. Traffic patterns for clean and sterile supplies and equipment will be separated from patterns of soiled equipment and waste by either space or time. (See Traffic Pattern Floor Plan)
5. Dirty linen, trash and equipment will be transported to the soiled utility area. Environmental Services will remove trash and linen at periodic intervals. Instruments will be transported to Central Supply in a closed cart by Central Supply personnel.
6. Doors to the operating rooms, lounge, soiled utility room and pneumatic doors will be closed except during movement of personnel and equipment.
7. Life-threatening patient emergencies or fire and safety hazards may necessitate modification in traffic control practices.
8. Restricted areas are designated by the appropriate signs.
9. Patient support person may stay in the holding area with the patient. The support person will be limited to one person except in the case of small children when both parents may be present. The support person must remain by the patient's stretcher and leave immediately when the patient is removed from the holding areas.