

Section: Division of Nursing
Approval: _____

PROCEDURE

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HACKETTSTOWN COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Originator: E. Sweeney, RN, CPAN
Revised by: T. Fitzgerald, BSN, RN

PACU
(Scope)

TITLE: CARE OF THE LATEX SENSITIVE/ALLERGIC PATIENT IN PACU

PURPOSE: To create a latex safe environment for the latex sensitive/allergic patient in PACU.

- SUPPORTIVE DATA:**
1. Patient with known latex sensitivity will be identified prior to admission. The PAT nurse notifies Pharmacy, OR. SDS, Central Supply and Nursing Service.
 2. The OR Secretary notes latex sensitivity of patient on OR schedule.
 3. Refer to Generic Allergy Protocol (8620.173b) in the Department of Nursing Standards Manual - Process Section).

CONTENT:

PROCEDURE STEPS:

KEY POINTS:

1. Upon patient's arrival to PACU, attach all monitors as per PACU protocol.
 - a. Pulse oximeter (OHMEDA) is latex free.
 - b. Stockingnet should already be on arm used for BP.
 - c. Nasal canulas are latex free.
 - d. Stethoscope is to be covered with stockingnet secured with allergy-free tape.
 - e. Latex free gloves and tourniquet must be used.
 - f. For IV and IM medication administration, remove latex stoppers with decapper and withdraw medication directly.
 - g. Latex allergy cart accompanies patient to PACU.
 - h. Patient should have appropriate arm band and "STOP" latex allergy sign on foot of stretcher.
2. Reinforce latex allergy to nurse receiving patient.

DOCUMENTATION Record adherence to Latex Allergy Protocol in Nurses Notes.

Reference: Peri Anesthesia Nursing Care Curriculum, Preoperative Phase I and Phase II PACU Nursing: (Saunders) 2004, Quinn, Donna and Schick, Lois p 102-103