

**HACKETTSTOWN MEDICAL CENTER
PHYSICAL/OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PROCEDURE MANUAL
CARE OF HOT/COLD PACKS AND EQUIPMENT**

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Policy No: 5200-5.002/5300-5.002
Origin: Physical/Occupational Therapy
Authority: Therapy Services Manager
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PURPOSE

To maintain a safe, clean environment for staff and patients.

PROCEDURE

Use of Hydrocollator units:

1. The temperature of all hydrocollator units will be monitored regularly to assure temperature is maintained at 145-160 degrees Fahrenheit. Quality control logs are maintained.
2. If unit is not at proper temperature, control adjustments will be made. If unit is not working properly, Biomed will be notified to check.
3. Hydrocollator pack units are to be cleaned once monthly. The pack machines are thermostatically controlled and are to be left on at all times. Cleaning procedure in detail is found in policy 5200/5300-5.006.
4. Hydrocollator packs are to be replaced when they become soft and spongy. Keep a complete set for replacement on hand at all times.
5. Hydrocollator packs covers are used to control temperature and are completely covered with towels. The towels that touch the patient are discarded after each use. Covers are hung to dry.
6. Soiled, wet linen is placed in laundry bags and collected daily.
7. At least monthly the covers will be laundered by Environmental Services.

Use of Cold pack:

1. The temperature of the freezer unit will be monitored regularly to assure the temperature is maintained at 10-20 degrees Fahrenheit. Quality control logs are maintained.
2. If unit is not at proper temperature, control adjustments will be made. If unit is not working properly, Biomed will be notified to check.
3. The freezer is defrosted and cleaned monthly.
4. Torn or damaged cold packs are to be discarded.
5. Cold packs are covered by towels or pillowcases and discarded after each patient use.