

**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
PHYSICAL/OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PROCEDURE MANUAL
DECONTAMINATING WHIRLPOOLS**

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Cross Referenced:

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PURPOSE

To assure the safety of patients and staff in the whirlpool areas.

PROCEDURE

The staff will:

- Wear shoes with non-slip soles when in the whirlpool area.
- Check the water temperature prior to immersing patients.
- Never leave patients unattended in the whirlpool area.
- Wear proper protection when disinfecting the whirlpool.

Glass containers are not to be used in the whirlpool area.

Hoses are to be kept coiled and placed on hangers after use.

Ground fault interrupters are to be used on all electrical outlets.

1. The whirlpool is drained after use and rinsed of any debris. The sides, agitator and drains are cleaned with hospital approved germicide, automatically dispensed from unit attached to hose. For complete sanitation, germicide must remain for minimum of 10 minutes.
2. The agitator is run for 3-5 minutes in 3-4 quarts of water with hospital-approved germicide in clean bucket or in bottom of tank for small whirlpools.
3. The tank is drained of germicide, rinsed and dried.
4. Care should be taken to clean the seat thoroughly.