

Document Code:	DPOTMH-C-24-P13	
Effective Date:	09-30-2022	
Document Type: Policy		
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Department/Section: Infection Prevention and Control Uni		
Document Title:	NO BRINGING OF OUTSIDE PILLOWS POLICY	

PURPOSE:

- 1. To prevent transmission of microorganism through fomites and other nosocomial pathogens that can harm patients by means of cross contamination. (e.g Pillow)
- 2. To provide admitted patients with a pillow for hygiene, comfort and rest.

LEVEL:

Infection Prevention and Control Unit, Nursing Service Department, Security Department, Materials Management and Central Supply Room.

DEFINITION OF TERMS:

Pillow- a soft object on which you rest your head in bed or support for the head of a reclining person.

Fomites- refers to inanimate objects that can carry and spread disease and infectious agents. It is also called passive vectors.

Textile- various fiber-based materials, including cloth, fibers, yarns, filaments, threads, and different fabric types.

Medical pillows- are bed accessories that provide comfort and support and assists with preventing several prevalent conditions, with specific regards to neck pain and back pain.

POLICY:

1. The hospital shall endeavor to prevent transmission of microorganism through pillows among its admitted patients and significant others.



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- 2. Upon admission, the patient shall be provided with one pillow, sealed and prepared in the patient's room of choice with a pillow case ready.
- The pillow shall be the property of the patient and can be brought home upon discharge.
- 4. Outside pillows shall not be allowed inside the hospital premises both for the inpatient and the significant others or folks. Pillows can become contaminated with body substances during patient care if the integrity of the covers of these items is compromised.
- 5. In case of re-admission, the pillow used during the previous admission shall not be allowed to be used. A new sealed pillow shall be issued to the patient.
- The customer relation officer / security guard on duty shall ensure that no outside pillows shall be brought in the patient's room at the time of admission or during visitations.
- 7. In cases where patients are using specialized medical pillows for their medical condition, a clearance from the Infection Prevention and Control Unit shall be secured and proper disinfection of the pillow shall be done prior to usage inside the hospital.
- 8. The customer relation officer/ security guard on duty must confiscate and secure the patient's outside pillows within 72 hours only.
- 9. All confiscated outside pillows must be claimed in the security office and shall present the signed waiver between 8am- 5pm, Monday to Sunday. Unclaimed pillows must be discarded right after the given time.
- 10. This policy shall be applicable to in-patients.



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DOCUMENTATION:

Revised Policy

DISSEMINATION:

- 1. Departmental meetings
- 2. Orientations
- 3. Memorandum
- 4. IPC Policy
- 5. Communicator E-library

REFERENCE:

Laundry | Background | Environmental Guidelines | Guidelines Library | Infection Control | CDC. (n.d.). CDC. Retrieved September 2, 2022, from https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/environmental/background/laundry.html

Zoppi, B. L. A. (2021, February 18). What are Fomites? News-Medical.Net. Retrieved September 2, 2022, from https://www.news-medical.net/health/What-are-Fomites.aspx



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PURPOSE:

- 1. To prevent transmission of microorganism through fomites and other nosocomial pathogens that can harm patients by means of cross contamination. (e.g Pillow)
- 2. To provide admitted patients with a pillow for hygiene, comfort and rest.

LEVEL:

Infection Prevention and Control Unit, Nursing Service Department, Security Department, Materials Management and Central Supply Room.

PROCEDURE:

- 1. The nurse informs the patient/ family that bringing of pillow inside the hospital is not allowed. If the patient is using specialized medical pillow
- 2. Upon admission, the patient shall be provided with one pillow, sealed and prepared in the patient's room of choice with a pillow case ready.
- 3. The customer relation officer/ security guard on duty shall ensure that no outside pillows shall be brought in the patient's room at the time of admission or during visitations. The customer relation officer/ security guard on duty must secure the patient's outside pillows within 72 hours only.
- 4. The nurse explains to the patient/ family member that the pillow can be brought home upon discharge.
- The nurse explains further that should the patient/ family member wish to have an additional pillow, he/ she may purchase it in cash or may opt to charge it to his/ her account.



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KEYTASKS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
 Informs the patient/ family that bringing of pillow inside the hospital is not allowed 	Nurse
2. Provides the patient with one (1) new pillow, sealed and prepared in the patient's room	Nurse/ Nurse Attendant
3. Ensures that no outside pillows shall be brought in the patient's room at the time of admission or during visitations	Customer Relation Officer / Security Guard on duty
4. Secures the patient's outside pillow for maximum of 72 hours only	Customer Relation Officer / Security Guard on duty
5. Explains to the patient/family member that the pillow can be brought home upon discharge	Nurse
6. Informs patient that if they wish to have additional pillow, they may purchase in cash or charge to his/ her account	Nurse

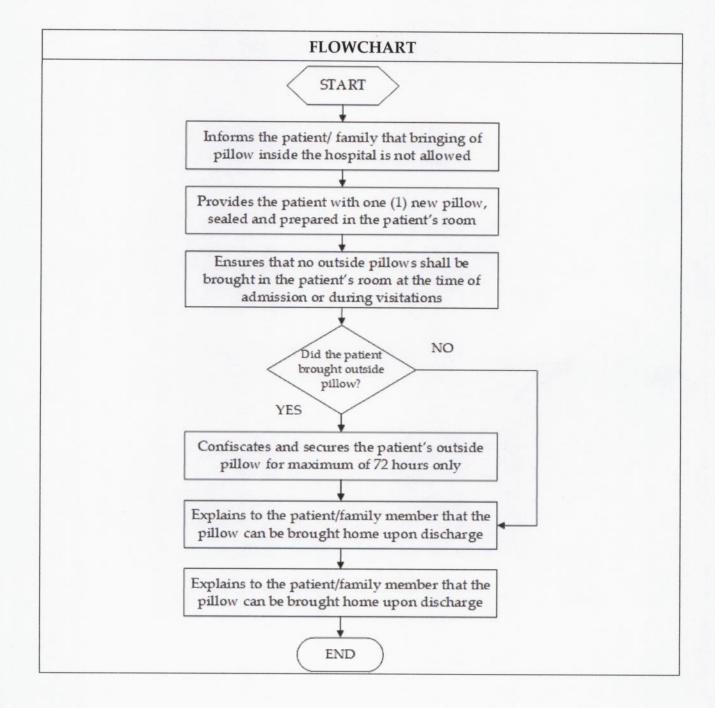


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