



DR. PABLO O. TORRE
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

B.S. Aquino Drive,
Bacolod City,
Negros Occidental,
6100

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Revision Number:	0
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Document Type:	Standard Operating Procedure
Page Number:	1
Department/Section:	Delivery Room
Document Title:	SURGICAL HAND SCRUBBING TECHNIQUE

PURPOSE:

To remove as many microorganisms from the hands as possible before a sterile procedure and to reduce the risk of infection for high risk groups.

OBJECTIVE:

To be able to eliminate/ contain potential microorganisms from the hand before doing a sterile procedure and to reduce the risk of infection for high risk groups by practicing the quality standard of surgical hand scrubbing technique.

RESPONSIBLE PERSON:

Attending Physician, Resident on duty, Registered Nurse, Registered Midwives, Student Nurses and Midwives with supervision from their Clinical Instructor

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

1. A surgical hand scrub should be performed to prevent the rapid growth of microorganisms inside the surgical gloves for a period of time and reduce the risk of infection to clients if gloves develop holes, tears or pricks during the procedure.
2. The health care team should be in surgical attire before beginning the surgical hand scrub.
3. Before entering the restricted areas of the surgical environment, the health care team should wear scrub clothes, hair coverings and mask. Protective eye wear and other protective barriers should be worn as needed.
4. The health care team should complete a 3-minute scrub at the beginning of each vaginal delivery, cesarean section, dilatation and curettage or as indicated.



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5. Members of the health care team should do proper hand washing technique before and after the procedure.
6. Thoroughly moistened hands and forearms of the health care team should be washed using an approved surgical scrub agent and rinsed before beginning the surgical scrub procedure.
7. An antimicrobial agent should be applied with friction to the wet hands and forearms.
8. Fingers, hands and arms should be visualized as having four sides; each side must be scrubbed effectively.
9. Hands should be held higher than the elbows and away from the surgical attire.

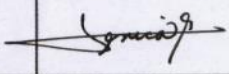

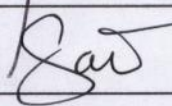

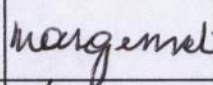
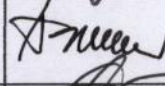



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APPROVAL:

	Name/Title	Signature	Date
Prepared by:	JENICA P. ARTUS, RN Delivery Room Staff Nurse		11/10/2020
Verified:	MA. CARMELA O. HECHANOVA, RN Delivery Room Head Nurse		11-10-2020
Reviewed:	SUZETTE J. PIDO, RN QA Internal Quality Analyst – Patient Care		11-10-2020
	DENNIS C. ESCALONA, RN, MN, FPSQua Quality Assurance Supervisor		11-10-2020
Recommending Approval:	MA. ANTONIA S. GENSOLI, MD, FPPS Medical Director		11-12-2020
	HENRY F. ALAVAREN, MD, FPSMID Total Quality Division Officer		11/16/2020
Approved:	GENESIS GOLDI D. GOLINGAN President and CEO		12/15/2020



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EQUIPMENT NEEDED:

1. Surgical Cap
2. Face mask
3. Antiseptic detergent such as betadine and dermistat (non-staining, broad spectrum, effective in reducing microorganisms)
4. One (1) sterile surgical brush
5. Deep sink with foot pedal control
6. Sterile towel

PROCEDURE:

1. Members of the health care team removes all pieces of jewelry on their hands, wrists and fingers.
2. Members of the health care team dons surgical cap and face mask, making certain to cover the nose and mouth snugly.
3. Members of the health care team cleans the part under the fingernail with a stick brush.
4. Members of the health care team turns on the water using knee or foot controls.
5. Members of the health care team wets their hands and forearms liberally, keeping the hands above the level of the elbows during the entire procedure.
6. Members of the health care team performs hand washing technique using antiseptic solution up to 5cm above elbow then rinses hands and arms thoroughly.
7. Members of the health care team dispenses a liberal amount of betadine cleanser into the hands and lather hands and arms to 5 cm above the elbows.



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8. Members of the health care team scrubs nails of one hand with 15 strokes using sterile surgical brush. He/She holds the brush perpendicularly, scrubs palm, each side of hand with 10 strokes each. The arm is mentally divided into 3, and each is scrubbed 10 times. Surgical scrubbing should last 5 to 10 minutes. Then the health care team rinses the brush and repeats sequence for other arm.
10. Members of the health care team discards the brush, rinses hands and arms thoroughly and turns off the water using the foot or knee pedal.
11. Members of the health care team proceeds to the delivery or operating room area.
12. Members of the health care team slowly bends forward at his/her waist, picks the sterile towel on the top of gown from opened package, wipes hands thoroughly, starts from fingers to elbows using a rotating motion, dries from cleanest to least clean area.
13. Members of the health care team repeats the drying method for the other hand with unused portion of the towel.
14. Members of the health care team discards the towel to the linen hamper.
15. Members of the health care team keeps his/her hands higher than the elbow, away from the body and always mindful of keeping gloved hands sterile.

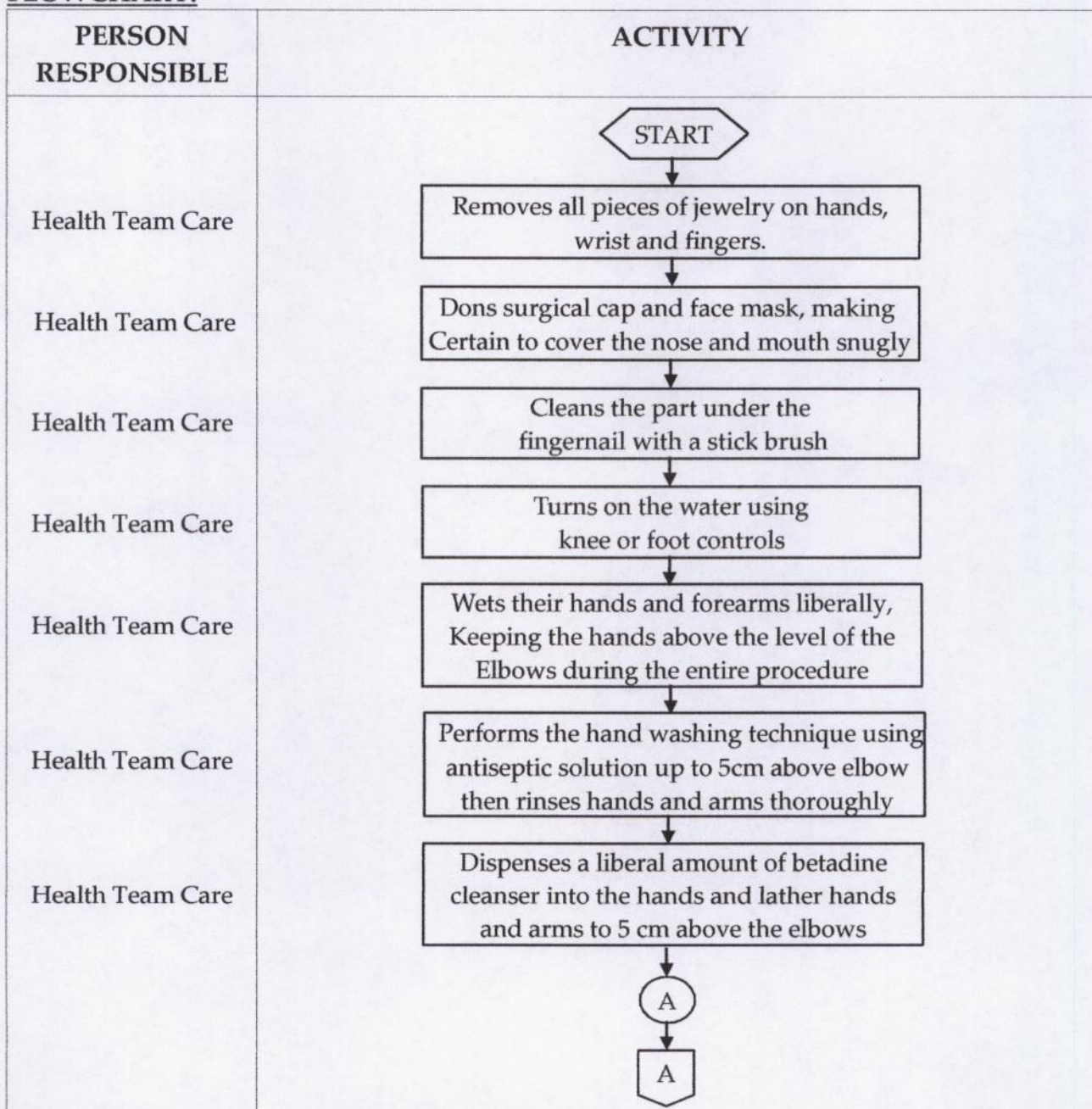


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FLOWCHART:





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