INSERT YOUR FACILITY NAME HERE

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| Orig. Effec. Date: 3/2006 Approved By:  |  |
| Revised: 7/06, 04/11 |
| Approved By: |
| **SUBJECT: CLEANING AND DISINFECTING PATIENT CARE EQUIPMENT AND COMPUTER IN PATIENT CARE AREAS** |
| **DEPARTMENT: INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL** |
| **AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS: ALL NURSING AND ANCILLARY DEPARTMENTS** |

Something Town, Wyoming

**POLICY NO. IFC-020**

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**POLICY:**

During the provision of routine patient care, many pieces of equipment are reusable and used for multiple patients. Some examples would be bath/shower chairs, commodes, vital sign equipment, glucometers, mechanical lifts, etc. Each of these items will be cleaned and disinfected between patients using procedures that are consistent with manufacturer recommendations specific to the product. Employees using such equipment will be thoroughly oriented to these procedures and routinely updated on any new or changing procedures. Items labeled for single patient use are disposed of and are not reprocessed.

**PURPOSE:**

To prevent the transmission of microorganisms during the use of equipment.

**PROCEDURE:**

I. Patient Care Equipment

a. All equipment and supplies will be cleaned and decontaminated immediately after use. Body fluids in/on the equipment (e.g., urine in collection bag/suction bottle contents) will be disposed of in the sewage system.

b. Personal protective equipment will be donned as appropriate when handling body fluids. Manufacture’s recommended personal protective equipment will be donned when using all chemicals.

c. Equipment is fist cleaned of surface soil and then decontaminated with an EPA- approved and facility-approved disinfectant.

II. Computer in Patient Care Areas

a. Use waterless alcohol degermer for non-soiled hands; soap and water for soiled hands prior to computer use and prior to touching patients.

b. No gloves should be worn during computer use. (Exception: contact precautions- clean gloves must be donned after performing hand hygiene.)

c. Hands must be de-germed after accessing the computer, before touching patients in multi-bed rooms.

d. Roving computers must be cleaned/disinfected before moving to another patient’s room.

e. Clean/disinfect computer surfaces including keyboard using germicidal wipe containing a hospital disinfectant by wiping surfaces with friction per manufacturer directions. Clean screen with microfiber cloth dampened with water only.