

Toy Management

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 2006

REVISED DATE: November 2010, March 2017

REVIEWED DATE: October 2019

1.0 PURPOSE

To prevent transmission of microorganisms from toys to patients, siblings and families.

2.0 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- 2.1. Encourage families to bring some of the child's favourite toys from home and keep at the child's bedside labelled with the child's name.
- 2.2. Playrooms and play areas should have:
 - access to both alcohol based hand rub (ABHR) and a hand wash sink
 - have an area or bin to place used toys in
 - someone assigned to clean and disinfect the toys and area daily
- 2.3. Toys should be nonporous with a smooth/non-textured surface for easy cleaning.
- 2.4. Stuffed toys and water-retaining bath toys are not to be used.
- 2.5. For patients on Additional Precautions, assign toys, books, or electronic games to the patient, then clean and disinfect the toys upon discharge or when precautions are discontinued.
- 2.6. Shared electronic games and computers should be cleaned between users.
- 2.7. In waiting rooms limit supply of shared books, magazines and cards and discard when visibly soiled.

3.0 PROCEDURE

- 3.1. Hand hygiene:
 - Must be done before and after playing with toys
 - Assist children to clean their hands with ABHR or soap and water
- 3.2. Inspect toys for damage, cracks or broken parts and discard.
- 3.3. Toys must be cleaned prior to disinfection:
 - Wash toys with regular soap and water using friction
 - Rinse with water and dry
 - Toys assigned to patients must be cleaned when visibly soiled and once per week
- 3.4. Disinfection options:
 - Use a dishwasher (must reach 82° C for 10 seconds)
 - Wipe toys with hospital approved disinfectant – allow appropriate contact time, then rinse with water and dry
 - **Phenolics** must not be used for toys or equipment that comes into contact with infants

4.0 REFERENCES

- 4.1. IPAC Canada **Practice Recommendations Toys**; July 2016.
- 4.2. Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario), Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee. **Infection Prevention and Control for Clinical Office Practice**. Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario; April 2015; pg. 51.
- 4.3. Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion, Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee. **Best Practices for Environmental Cleaning for Prevention and Control of Infections in All Health Care Settings**. 2nd Revision. Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario; 2012; pg. 101-102.
- 4.4. APIC Text online Pediatrics chapter 42; February, 2016.