Reuse of Disposable Items and Equipment

Purpose:

To differentiate between disposable patient care item and single use ensure appropriate use of disposable supplies and equipment.

Policy:

1. Disposable patient care items are patient care items that are assigned to and used for only one patient. These items are to be discarded or sent with the patient upon their transfer or discharge.

2. Single use patient care items are one time use items and are discarded after each use. These items will be packaged and marked as “single use” or have the international single use insignia: a number two encircled with a line through it.

3. Any department that wishes to deviate from this policy will submit a written request and supporting literature to the Infection Control Department for review, consideration, and recommendation by the Infection Control Committee.

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