

## **AQUA PLAST WATER BATH**

### **Policy:**

Provide therapist staff with guidelines on proper procedures for Aqua plast water bath warmer to be used in constructing of aqua plast immobilization devices for radiation therapy treatments. The procedures for the water bath warmer for melting aqua plast immobilization devices are those recommended by the LSUHSC - Infection Control and by the vendor.

### **Procedure:**

1. Sterile water will be used in the water bath.
2. Keep the water bath warmer powered on continuously, with the lid closed at all times; except when using the product or adding more water.
3. Keep the water bath filled to its normal level at all times. At no time should you allow the water level to drop to below one inch in depth.
4. The water bath should be filled with clear fresh water until it is just below the lid-hinge bracket, about two inches from the top of the water bath.
5. The water will be change weekly according to Department Specific Infection Control Policy.
6. The water bath temperature should be set at 160 to 165 degrees F for any type of thermoplastic sheet.
7. The special non-stick water bath liner should be in the water bath warmer so that it uniformly covers its entire bottom surface.
8. Carefully lay the thermoplastic sheet flat in the bottom of the water bath and let it soak in the water bath unit it turns completely transparent. This takes from 2 to 4 minutes.
9. Before placing the thermoplastic sheet on the patient, feel the material with you hand to ensure it is not too hot. Inform patient that the produce will be moist and warm.
10. If the water level in the water bath warmer is substantially below the lid hinge, then carefully add clean fresh water until the water level is adequate and wail until the water temperature has stabilized prior to use.

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