Hospital Scrub Policy

Purpose:

To designate areas where scrub attire is required, identify scrub colors restricted for use by designated areas, and set guidelines for the use of LSUHSC-S owned scrub attire.

Definitions:

Semi-restricted area: Includes the peripheral support areas of the surgical suite, includes, but is not necessarily limited to the corridors leading to the restricted areas, scrub sink areas, and instrument storage and processing areas.

Restricted area: Includes operating rooms, procedure rooms, and the clean core area.

Surgical suite: A group of one or more operating rooms and adjunct facilities, such as a sterile storage area, patient holding area, work room, scrub room, and recovery room.

Policy:

I. Personnel in the following designated departments are required to wear scrubs provided by the Health Sciences Center as designated below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>SCRUB COLOR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Restricted Areas</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating Rooms (including Anesthesia)</td>
<td>Sapphire Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burn Center Operating Room</td>
<td>Sapphire Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiac Cath Lab</td>
<td>Misty Green (Gray)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiology Special Procedures</td>
<td>Misty Green (Gray)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor and Delivery</td>
<td>Jade Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-Restricted Area</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral Surgery</td>
<td>Misty Green (Gray)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renal Unit</td>
<td>Misty Green (Gray)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMS</td>
<td>Misty Green (Gray)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

II. General Guidelines

1. Hospital issued scrubs shall be marked “Property of LSUHSC” and shall be laundered, maintained, distributed and issued by the Health Sciences Center
Laundry Service Department. (See distribution guidelines in the Laundry Service Department manual).

2. Hospital issued scrubs shall not be worn and/or taken outside the Health Science Center properties. Hospital owned scrubs are an expensive resource, and personnel who use them are expected to return them to the Laundry.

3. Supervisors should observe the use of hospital owned scrubs among their personnel and enforce policies that pertain to the use of scrubs.

4. The Health Sciences Center does not provide scrubs for non-designated departments. Department directors may permit scrubs as part of the dress code; however, the employee will be responsible for purchasing a non-designated color and laundering.

5. Scrubs suits in colors that have been retired from the designated list in item number 1 may be retained by the Laundry for further use.
   a. Scrubs may be temporarily provided for staff that soils their uniform while at work. (Infection Control Policy 5.0).
   b. At the request of the charge nurse, a set of scrubs, when available, will be issued by the Laundry for discharged patients who require clothing.

6. Scrub suits are not considered personal protective attire.

III. Requirements for Scrubs Worn in Restricted Areas Requiring a Cover Garment

1. Individuals who enter the semi-restricted and restricted areas of surgical suites must wear freshly laundered surgical attire intended for use only within the surgical suite, and provided by LSUHSC-S.

2. When leaving the surgical suite, one of the following clean cover garments shall be worn over the scrub suit:
   a. A fully buttoned full-length lab coat
   b. A fully buttoned ¾ length surgical scrub jacket
   c. A surgical gown worn backwards and tied

3. Upon return to the restricted area, cover garments shall be removed before entering.

4. In an emergency situation scrubs may be worn outside the restricted area without a cover garment; however, clean scrubs must be donned before re-entering the restricted area.

5. Visibly soiled scrubs should be changed as soon as possible.
6. Scrubs that are worn in community settings outside of the Health Sciences Center property should be considered street clothing and are not appropriate attire for a restricted area. LSUHSC-S owned scrubs are not intended for use as street attire.

7. When a staff member enters a restricted area, they must don scrubs that have been issued for use in the restricted area they are entering, except in emergency situations where taking the time to change scrubs would threaten the wellbeing of the patient.

8. When staff members from unrestricted areas change into scrubs provided for restricted areas, they must remove and deposit restricted area scrubs in the soiled laundry receptacle before leaving.

9. Department Directors may establish more restrictive scrub use guidelines, based on the culture and priorities of their department. See department specific guidelines for your practice area.

10. LSUHSC-S owned scrubs will not be issued to visitors with the following exceptions:

   a. Participants during the delivery in the Labor Unit.
   b. Sponsored individuals, who for business purposes, must enter a restricted area (the sponsoring department is responsible for making appropriate arrangements for such situations).

References:


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Revised: 4/03, 5/05, 4/07, 3/08, 3/10, 12/12