

PROTOCOL FOR: Blanket (Solution) Warmers: Care of the Patient Using Supplies Stored in

- POLICY:**
1. Warmers will not be set at a temperature higher than 130°F for blankets and 104°F for fluids.
 2. Blanket (solution) warmers and/or their individual compartments will be labeled for proper contents and safe temperature settings.
 3. A daily temperature log will be maintained (see Appendix).
 4. Notify Pharmacy to determine disposition of fluids if a warmer containing fluids is outside of the recommended range.
 5. Notify Facilities Management for evaluation and repair when the warmer temperature is outside the recommended range.
 6. Blanket (solution) warmers will be inspected annually by Clinical Engineering to verify proper temperature settings and performance.
 7. Irrigation solutions placed in the warmer must be dated and timed and removed after 30 days.
 8. Irrigation solutions removed from the warmer after 30 days may be stored out of the warmer and at room temperature until the expiration date noted on the bottle.
 9. Povidone iodine (Betadine) can not be placed in the warmer.
 10. Contrast medium should be stored in a dedicated warmer. Refer to manufacturer's guidelines for the proper temperature range.

DESIRED PATIENT

- OUTCOME:**
1. The patient is free from signs/symptoms of thermal injury, including but not limited to, pain, reddening, blisters.

**CLINICAL
ASSESSMENT AND**

- CARE:**
1. Assess skin condition for color, temperature and intactness prior to placing any warmed blankets against the patient.
 2. Confirm that temperature of any warmed solutions or blankets does not exceed recommended temperature limit prior to using warmed supplies. Do not use the blanket or solution if the temperature of the warmer is outside the recommended range.
 3. Notify the MD/licensed independent practitioner (LIP) of any suspected burns.

APPROVAL: Nursing Standards Committee

EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/06

REVISION DATES: 3/09, 7/09, 12/09