

PROTOCOL FOR: Department of Corrections (DOC) Patients in the Perioperative Area

- POLICY:**
1. DOC patients will receive an "R" designation on the printed schedule in the Case Comments section.
 2. No information is given at any time to any party regarding DOC patients except to the JDH DOC ward staff.
 3. If an outside party calls to inquire about an upcoming surgery for a DOC patient, the JDH DOC ward staff will be notified to reschedule the patient for surgery.
 4. Perioperative staff will call the JDH DOC ward staff when the patient is to be brought to the Holding Area.
 5. DOC patients will be accompanied by a DOC officer at all times and will remain restrained unless removal of restraints is deemed medically necessary by the medical staff.
 6. DOC officers will don scrub attire prior to accompanying inmates into semi-restricted or restricted areas.
 7. If the patient is to undergo peripheral nerve blockade, spinal/epidural anesthesia, MAC or LBS, the patient will remain restrained and the DOC officer will remain in the OR / procedure room throughout the entire procedure.
 8. If the patient is to undergo general anesthesia, the DOC officer will remain in the OR until the patient is fully anesthetized, then remain immediately accessible at all times in the outer corridor. The officer will be alerted to return to the OR when the patient is emerging from anesthesia and will immediately restrain the patient once he or she has been transferred to the patient bed or stretcher.
 9. To prevent electrical or thermal injury, flex cuffs will be used in place of metal restraints whenever electrosurgery is used and the patient will not receive general anesthesia. Flex cuffs and snips will be available in the outer corridor and on the DOC unit.
 10. DOC officers will not leave the patient for any reason. If bathroom or meal relief is needed, DOC personnel will relieve the officer on duty. Requests for this may be made through the DOC ward (x2601, x4741 or x2708).
 11. DOC patients being recovered will be segregated as much as possible from the general public by using end bays.
 12. Perioperative staff will never divulge follow-up appointment information to the DOC patient. Notation for follow-up will be placed in a sealed envelope and returned to the facility, which will then make the follow-up appointment.

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13. DOC officers shall present themselves in a professional and courteous manner at all times, and shall never argue custody or security concerns with JDH staff. If any questions or problems arise, the DOC custody supervisor may be notified on the JDH DOC ward staff (x2601, x4741 or x2708). Any problems will also be reported to the Director, Perioperative Services / appointed designee', or to the Director of Public Safety. *Issues needing immediate attention should be reported to the Police Department Officer in charge at X-2121*

APPROVAL: Nursing Standards Committee

EFFECTIVE DATE: 9/97

REVISION DATES: 6/03

REVIEWED DATES: 7/09