#### Mini-Medical School



# How to avoid re-infections in the hospital

# 如何避免住院二次感染(英文)

#### Introduction

Hospitals are places for diseases and patients; any medical staff, patients, and visitors are carriers for spreading bacteria and causing re-infection of the patients. Bacteria often enter a number of wounds and cuts of the inpatients, and the approach is named nosocomial infections. To maintain the safety of the hospitalized patients, all family members, patients, and medical staff are obligated to protect inpatients from being re-infected again.

To avoid spreading bacteria, wash your hands before or after touching patients' wounds or cuts; moreover, carefully handle the secretion and excrements of the patients to refrain pathogens from infecting other patients. Also everyone is obligated to maintain the tidiness of the ward to eliminate the growth of bacteria; this is for the benefit of the patients, please do cooperate.

## Hand hygiene

Hand-washing is the most important and easy method to control the infections in the hospital.

## The steps for hand-washing

- 1. Moisturize your hands.
- 2. Rub the soap with your hands and scrub your hands until foams fully produced and carefully clean your fingertips.
- 3. Keep water running when cleaning your hands
- 4. Dry your hands.

## When should you wash your hands?

- 1. Before eating and after using bathrooms.
- 2. Before and after you have contact with patients.
- 3. After sneezing, coughing, and blowing your nose.
- 4. Before or after your entering and exiting the intensive care unit, baby room, burning center and isolated ward.

### When should you wear gloves ?

- 1. When touching secretions and excrements of patients.
- 2. When extract sputum for patients.
- 3. When adjusting or changing medical catheter.

#### Medical waste classification

Reasons for classifying medical waste:

To maintain the health of the patients and medical staff, it is necessary for the hospital to properly implement litter classification protocols for contagious medical waste.

• What is deemed infectious medical wastes?

Things that have contact with patients' secretion are considered infectious medical wastes.

Where should we dispose those infectious wastes?

Dispose them in the red plastic bag which is for contagious medical waste.

### Care for wounds

#### Things to notice:

- 1. Keep the medical dressing dry, notify medical staff when it is wet and dirty
- 2. Change bandages on a daily basis
- 3. Notify medical staff if the wound bleeds
- 4. Avoid direct contact with the wound
- 5. Avoid applying unsterilized medical dressing
- 6. Cover the wound with a bandage or gauze pad

### Cares for venous catheter

- 1. Do not twist the catheter to maintain the flow of the fluid
- 2. Notify medical staff if the injected area is loosen or bleeding
- 3. Do not take off the catheter by yourself
- 4. Notify medical staff when there is redness around the injection area

## Cares for foley

- 1. Keep urethral meatus and perineum clean and dry.
- 2. To maintain the flow of the catheter, do not twist or compress it
- 3. Keep the foley bag lower than the urinary bladder and do not put it on the floor to prevent infection.
- 4. When pouring the foley bag, avoid outlet touching toilets; after pouring the urine, close the outlet immediately.

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