

# **Guidelines for Surgery Experience** to Prevent Surgical Site Infections

#### Attire:

- 1. No jewelry of any kind is allowed in the surgical suite, whether covered by attire or not.
- 2. No artificial nails.
- 3. Nail polish may be worn if not chipped or peeling and no nail jewelry allowed.
- 4. All hair, including facial, must be covered.
- 5. Shoe covers will be worn over street shoes.
- 6. T-shirt-style undershirts must be small enough to be completely contained underneath the scrubs issued; they cannot be visible at all.
- 7. Surgical masks are to be worn in the surgical environment where open sterile supplies or scrubbed persons are located.

#### **Behaviors:**

- 1. Un-scrubbed persons must be aware of the need for a safe distance from the sterile field, approximately 24 inches; must face the sterile field and should never walk between two sterile fields; conversation in the presence of a sterile field should be kept to a minimum.
- 2. Traffic flow in the O.R. will be restricted, according to AORN recommendations. Minimize or eliminate leaving and returning to the surgical suite, once the case has begun.

## **Key principles related to student status:**

- 1. There is no way to secure any personal belongings, such as purse, book bag or wallet.
- 2. Students need to eat a snack/drink fluid in moderation and use the restroom before entering the surgical suite.
- 3. Students are visitors in the OR and therefore must wear the green surgical cap identifying them as such.

### **Key principles for faculty members:**

- 1. Prepare a list of dates, student names, and contact information at the beginning of the clinical rotation. Send this list to Deborah Antonacci (<a href="mailto:Antonacci.deborah@mhsil.com">Antonacci.deborah@mhsil.com</a>) or Jennifer Golembeck (<a href="mailto:Golembeck.jennifer@mhsil.com">Golembeck.jennifer@mhsil.com</a>) at the beginning of the semester.
- 2. Please let us know if your students have any special needs. Students who are pregnant or think they may be pregnant should not be assigned to x-ray/fluoroscopy cases or cases where bone cement will be in use.
- 3. If your student needs 4 X large scrub clothing or larger, please let us know before observation day so we can ensure appropriate size scrubs are available.
- 4. Arrive to the OR front desk between 6:50 AM and 7:00 AM. Every first Thursday of the month, the OR has a staff meeting. Should your clinical rotation fall on the first Thursday of the month, please report to the OR front desk at 8:00 AM.