

May 20, 2014

## Tampon Use in the Operating Room

The question of whether the use of tampons for patients undergoing general anesthesia was raised following an incident where a tampon was left in patient greater than 24 hours who had undergone a neurological procedure and was in the PICU. Currently we do not have a standard of care. This sparked a discussion with professional staff to assist in determining the best practice. Dr. Rachel Miller, Children's pediatric and adolescent gynecologist, recommends that ***tampons, menstrual cups or sponges are removed prior to anesthesia***. This recommendation is supported by the anesthesia medical directors, Dr Reiner, Dr. McCormick, and our chief of surgery, Dr. Schmeling.

Here are the changes in practice **effective May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014**.

Preoperative:

- Ask the question for menstruating females whether they are currently using a tampon, menstrual cup or sponge.
- Explain it is for their safety that they remove the tampon prior to surgery.
- Provide the patient with mesh underwear and a sanitary pad to use during surgery.
- Document the information in the preop assessment record under Patient Safety/ Checks found in the Screening segment. The documentation will flow to the preop QV and the Periop Handoff tab (see attached "On the Record").

OR:

- If you notice a tampon in please remove and fill out a Safety Learning Report.

## Preop Assessment Powerform Changes: Re. Feminine Hygiene Products.

There is a change to both the **Preop Assessment Record** and the **Preop Assessment Record-Inpatient** to document the removal of feminine hygiene products before surgery. This information will flow to the Preop QV and the Periop Handoff.

### Preop Assessment Record: Day of Surgery Section: Patient Safety/Checks

Day of Surgery

RN     Parent/Guardian     Patient     Other:

**Patient Safety/Checks** \*Enter details of implants in comments column

	Yes	No	N/A	Comment
Current H&P (within 30days)	X			
Patient ID On and Verified	X			
Meds sent to OR			X	
Loose Teeth/Capped		X		
Oral Appliance		X		
Implants/Pacemaker/AICD Verified		X		
Body Piercing/Jewelry Removed			X	
Smokes			X	
Alcohol/Drug Use			X	
Glasses/Contacts Removed			X	
Nail Polish Removed	X			
<b>Tampons, Menstrual Cups, Sponges Removed</b>	X			
Trachs/Current Obturator			X	
All Anticoagulant Medications Held			X	
Other Safety Concerns			X	

Recommendation: Remove all scalp braids, beads and/or barrettes before surgery or if patient will be lying on them. Need guardian's permission to remove. Document.

**Pre-op Skin Prep**

CHG bath     Pre-operative hairwash     N/A  
 CHG wipe     Refused     Other:

### Inpatient Preop Assessment Record

Day of Surgery Checklist

	Yes	No	N/A
Current H&P (within 30days)			
Allergies Verified			
Labs Drawn			
Pregnancy test completed			
Pre- Meds Administered & Documented			
All Anticoagulant Medications Held			
Head to Toe Assessment Documented			
VS Documented Within 1 Hour of OR			
Pre-Op Education Documented			
Interpreter Available			
Patient Specific Prep Completed			
Patient ID On and Verified			
First, Middle, and Last Name Verified			
Patient in Gown & Undergarments Removed			
Hair Ties/ Clips/ Braids Removed			
Glasses/Contacts Removed			
Nail Polish Removed			
<b>Tampons, Menstrual Cups, Sponges Removed</b>			
Oral Appliance			
Loose Teeth/Capped			
Implants/Pacemaker/AICD Verified			
Body Piercing/Jewelry Removed			
Transport Equipment Available & Ready			
Meds sent to OR			
Family Available/ Contact Info in EMR			
Patient Chart/Paper Work			
Void Before Transport			
Trachs/ Obturator/ Emergency Equipment			

## Preop QV

Menu - PrePost

PreOp QV

This grid contains all data documented in the past 7 days

05/08	Other Medical History	No
05/08	Problems with prior anesthetics	No
05/08	History of Malignant Hyperthermia	No
05/08	History of excessive bleeding	No
05/08	Respiratory support	No
05/08	Communicable disease exposure	No
05/08	Patient History of Diabetes	No
05/08	Developmental needs	No

Flowsheet: Peri-Op QV Clinical Information Level: Peri-Op QV Clinical Information

01 May 2014 12:15 - 09 May 2014 12:15 (Posting Range)

Peri-Op QV Clinical Information		05/08/2014 12:13
<b>NPO Status- last time consumed</b>		
NPO Time - Solids		05/07/2014 23:00
NPO Time - Clears		05/08/2014 6:00
<b>Current Clinical Data</b>		
Tampons, Menstrual Cups, Sponges Removed		Yes
<b>Integumentary Assessment</b>		
Skin Assessment Verified By		RN, Patient
Skin Within Defined Limits		Skin warm, dry & i...
<b>Pre-op Miscellaneous</b>		
Problems with prior anesthetics		No
History of Malignant Hyperthermia		No
History of excessive bleeding		No

## Periop Handoff

Menu - PrePost

Periop Hand Off

Flowsheet: Periop Hand Off Level: Periop Hand Off

01 May 2014 12:29 - 05

Periop Hand Off			
<b>Past/Current Medical History</b>			
	Pre-op Assessment Record		
05/08/2014 12:13	Pre-Op Assessment Record		
<b>Current Clinical Data</b>			
	Tampons, Menstrual Cups, Sponges Removed	Communicable Disease ...	Pro
05/08/2014 12:13	Yes	No	No
<b>Current Clinical Data</b>			
	Respiratory Support	Developmental needs	Oth
05/08/2014 12:13	No	No	No
<b>NPO Information</b>			
	NPO Time - Solids	NPO Time - Clears	
05/08/2014 12:13	05/07/2014 23:00	05/08/2014 6:00	
<b>Integumentary Assessment</b>			
	Skin Assessment Verified By	Skin Within Defined Limits	
05/08/2014 12:13	RN, Patient	Skin warm, dry & intact...	