2.8 EEG and Evoked Potentials

Purpose

To outline infection control guidelines for the EEG and Evoked Potentials Department

Audience

All employees of UTMB hospitals and clinics, contract workers, volunteers, and students in the EEG and Evoked Potential Department

Policy

- Handwashing shall be performed before and after each patient contact and at other times as required (see policy: Handwashing for All Hospital Employees).
- Personnel shall comply with Employee Health Center guidelines for their area.
- Eating and drinking shall be confined to designated areas.
- All personnel shall adhere to the hospital dress codes and the dress code of their department.
- Personnel entering a patient's room shall strive to keep their attire free from patient contact and soilage with the patient's blood, other body fluids or excretions.
- All personnel shall follow the instructions posted on the door of a patient in isolation. All guidelines shall be followed. The patient's chart, record, and papers which will be removed from the patient's room shall not be placed on surfaces in that room (see policy: Isolation).
- Suspected or known exposure to or acquisition of a communicable disease shall be reported to the Department of Healthcare Epidemiology or the Employee Health Center immediately.
- All cuts and lacerations shall be covered with a waterproof dressing. The Universal Precautions Policy will be followed for any and all contact with blood or other body fluids.
- The department shall be notified about patients in isolation prior to initiation of the procedure.
- Transport equipment, beds, or stretchers shall be immediately cleaned with an EPA-registered tuberculocidal (hospital-grade) disinfectant solution if soiled by a patient's blood, body fluids, or excretions.
- Disposable equipment shall never be reused (see policy: Disposable Patient Care Items).

- Clean linen shall be handled appropriately (see policy: Guidelines for Handling Linen).
- All equipment or instruments requiring high level disinfection follow the policy for "Cleaning, Disinfection, and Sterilization of Patient Care Items."
- All clean and sterile supplies shall be stored on shelves or pallets 8-10" off the floor. Clean and sterile supplies shall be dust-free.
- There shall be no overflow of linen hampers or trash receptacles.
- All equipment, which comes in direct contact with the patient, shall be disinfected or sterilized prior to reuse (e.g. EEG electrodes and other accessories). Electrodes inserted into body tissues shall be sterilized before use.
- There shall be a routine schedule for cleaning patient care equipment (see policy: Universal Precautions).
- There shall be a routine check for outdated supplies.
- Gloves shall be worn when cleaning items contaminated with a patient's blood, other body fluids or excretions.
- Handwashing shall always be performed after removal of gloves.
- The area shall receive at least a daily cleaning of floors and horizontal surfaces.
- Equipment used for emergency care shall be covered to prevent contamination by dust. Resuscitation bags shall be disposable or terminally cleaned by sterilization or high-level disinfection.
- Contaminated reusable items shall be sent to Sterile Processing for reprocessing.