02.26 - Radiation Therapy

Purpose       To outline infection control practices for the Radiation Therapy Department

Audience     All UTMB employees, contract workers, volunteers, and students in the Radiation Therapy Department

Personnel  
- The Universal Precautions policy shall be followed for any and all contact with blood and body fluids.
- All cuts and lacerations shall be covered with a waterproof dressing.
- 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 requirements for their area.
- Eating and drinking shall be confined to designated areas.
- 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.
- A clean uniform shall be worn daily.
- All reusable equipment or instruments requiring high-level disinfection or sterilization shall be processed accordingly. See policies 01.05.02 and 01.05.04.
- The process of tattooing patients for radiation therapy shall be performed using aseptic technique and sterile dye. The skin shall be prepped with alcohol or povidone iodine prior to the needle insertion. A sterile needle shall be used.