



PIONEER MEDICAL CENTER

P.O. Box 1228, Big Timber, MT
406-932-4603 Fax: 406-932-5468

POLICY and PROCEDURE		
Title	Laundry and Bedding, Soiled	
Manuals	ADC-IC	HOS-IC
	ALF-IC	PH-IC
	CAH-IC	RHC-IC
Approved By	Date: <u>04/21/2016</u> By: <u>Erik Wood</u> Title: <u>CEO</u>	

Highlights	Policy Statement
<p>Contaminated Laundry</p> <p>Bagging Laundry</p> <p>Transporting Laundry</p> <p>Personal Protective Equipment</p> <p>Leak-Proof Bags/Containers</p> <p>Disinfection of Mattresses</p> <p>Air Fluidized Beds</p> <p>Pillows</p> <p>Sharps Containers</p> <p>Sorting Devices</p> <p>Removal of Soiled Personal Clothing</p> <p>Laundering of Personal Protective Clothing</p>	<p>Soiled laundry/bedding shall be handled in a manner that prevents gross microbial contamination of the air and persons handling the linen.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Procedure</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Soiled laundry and bedding (e.g., personal clothing, uniforms, scrub suits, gowns, bed sheets, blankets, towels, etc.) contaminated with blood or other potentially infectious materials must be handled as little as possible and with a minimum of agitation. 2. Place contaminated laundry in a bag or container at the location where it is used and do not sort or rinse at the location of use. 3. Place and transport contaminated laundry in bags or containers that are labeled or color-coded in accordance with established policies governing the handling and disposal of contaminated items. 4. Anyone who handles soiled laundry must wear protective gloves and other appropriate protective equipment (e.g., gowns if soiling of clothing is likely). 5. Housekeeping services and nursing staff will place and transport contaminated laundry that is wet enough to potentially leak or soak through the bag or container in double bags, or leak-proof bags or containers. 6. Housekeeping services and nursing staff will clean and disinfect mattresses using EPA-registered disinfectants. Follow manufacturers' instructions to avoid damaging the mattresses. 7. Maintain, clean, and replace air fluidized beds and pressure-reducing overlays in accordance with manufacturers' instructions. 8. Launder washable pillows in hot water when soiled with bodily substances and before exchange between residents. Discard pillows that are torn, damaged, or permanently stained. 9. The Facilities Manager or supervisor will ensure that a sharps container is located in the laundry room. Place any sharps (e.g., needles, razor blades, etc.) in the container. Discard filled sharps containers in accordance with established procedures. 10. The Facilities Manager or supervisor will ensure that forceps/tongs/special gloves or similar safe sorting devices are available for sorting laundry. 11. An employee whose personal clothing becomes soiled with blood or body fluids should cover the soiled areas (e.g., with a gown) or remove the clothing for immediate laundering before leaving the work area. 12. The facility will launder, replace, or repair employees' personal protective equipment, uniforms or clothing contaminated with blood or other potentially infectious materials at no



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**Cultures/Sampling of
Clothing**

cost to the employee.

13. Cultures or other sampling of clothing may be needed if there is evidence that clothing could be involved in a disease outbreak in the facility.

Regulatory Reference Sources	
OBRA Regulatory Reference Numbers	483.65(c); 483.75(b). See also OSHA's Bloodborne Pathogens Standard and Enforcement Standards at: www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=DIRECTIVES&p_id=2570
Survey Tag Numbers (optional)	