**Policy:**

The “Bair Hugger” is a Temperature Management System used to prevent and treat hypothermia and to provide warmth to the cold or shivering patient. This system is for use in all clinical settings and in this facility is found in the Operating Room.

**Warnings:**

1. Do not use the Bair Hugger with any forced-air blanket or cover other than Bair Hugger blankets. Thermal injury may result.
2. Do not warm patients with the Bair Hugger unit hose alone. Thermal injury may result. Always attach the hose to a Bair Hugger blanket before providing skin surface warming therapy.
3. Do not continue therapy if the Over Heat warning light illuminates and the audible alarm sound. Thermal injury may result. Turn the temperature management OFF and contact qualified technical personnel. If using 241 fluid warming, immediately stop fluid flow and discard the fluid warming set.
4. Do not initiate therapy unless the Model 505 temperature management unit is securely mounted or injury may result.

**Precautions:**

1. Monitor the patient’s temperature at least every 10 – 20 minutes, and monitor the patient’s vital signs regularly. Reduce air temperature or discontinue therapy when the therapeutic goal is reached or if vital sign instability occurs. Notify physician immediately of vital sign instability.
2. To prevent suffocation from misuse, do not leave children or infants unattended when administering Bair Hugger therapy.
3. Do not use in the presence of flammable anesthetics.
4. Do not disassemble the temperature management unit. Refer it to authorized technical personnel.

**Setup and Operation:**

The Bair Hugger Total Temperature Management System is easy to set up and to use. Follow the instructions provided with each blanket for specific information.

1. Place the Bair Hugger blanket on the patient with the perforated side (the side with small holes) against the patient’s skin.
2. Insert the hose of the temperature management unit in the hose port on the blanket. Use a twisting motion to ensure a snug fit.
3. Connect the unit to a properly grounded power source.
4. If so equipped, turn the Isolation Switch to the ON position.
5. Press the System ON / OFF button to turn the unit ON and select the appropriate temperature setting.
6. Place a cotton blanket over the Bair Hugger blanket for maximum effectiveness.
7. Monitor the patient’s temperature at least every 10 – 20 minutes and adjust the temperature setting of the unit as required.

**Temperature Management Units:**

The temperature unit uses a high-efficiency motor, a heating element, and a solid state temperature control to create a continuous flow of warm air to the blanket. It is designed for safe use in all areas, including the operating room.

 The folding handle on the unit can be placed in two positions.

1. The handle is moved forward and down for the folded position:
	1. This allows the unit to be rolled out of the way (for example, under the operating table) during warming therapy.
	2. It can be stored more conveniently when warming therapy is completed.
2. The handle is pushed up and back for the upright position:
	1. This position allows the unit to be easily transported between clinical areas.

The temperature management unit can be attached to an IV pole or to the railing on a bed.

 **Control Panel Features on the Temperature Management Unit:**

1. Temperature in range indicator:

 The temperature in range indicator illuminates when the output air temperature is within the range of the selected level.

 2. Main Power Indicator:

The main power indicator illuminates when the unit is connected to a power source. This indicator must be illuminated for any functions to operate.

1. System ON / STANDBY:

Push this button to turn the unit either ON or OFF. The indicator directly above the switch illuminates when the unit is ON.

1. Over Heat Indicator:

The Over Heat illuminates and an audible alarm sounds when an over-temperature condition is detected. To reset, turn the unit OFF and then ON, using the System ON / STANDBY button.

1. Temperature Indicators:

The temperature indicators illuminate up to the selected temperature level. When the unit is initially turned on, none of these indicators are illuminated and ambient air will be delivered.

1. Temperature Select:

Push this button to increase the temperature setting level by level to the desired settings. When the temperature setting is at HIGH, push the button again to return to delivery of ambient air.

**Upper Body Blanket:**

Upper body blanket is designed for use during surgical procedures on the lower half of the body. The blanket covers the upper torso, arms, neck, and head of patient.

1. Commonly used in the supine position
2. Can also be used with the patient in the prone and lithotomy position
3. Two hose inlet ports provide flexibility in positioning the temperature management unit on either side of the patient.
4. Attached clear head drape keeps warm air around the intubated patient’s head and provides for visualization of the patient.
5. Straps on each side are provided to keep the blanket in place.
6. The blanket may be rolled and tucked to accommodate various patient positions.

**Lower Body Blanket:**

Lower body blanket is designed for used primarily during surgery on the upper half of the body.

1. Effectively useful for patients in the supine, lateral, or prone position.
2. Foot drape minimizes the risk of thermal injury in the foot and lower leg area.

**241 Blood / Fluid Warming Set**

The 241 blood / fluid warming set allows use of two warming modalities with one piece of equipment.

1. Allows more work space and less equipment clutter
2. In-line crystal temperature display on outlet tubing makes it easy to monitor the temperature.
3. Meets all American Association of Blood Bank guidelines for blood warming.
4. Natural latex-free fluid pathway
5. Sterile, single use only
6. Recommended for flow rates from TKO to 3,000 mL/hr.