



College of
Chiropodists
of Ontario

Surgical Suites

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Introduction

This standard establishes infection prevention, environmental cleaning, and facility requirements for chiropody and podiatry surgical suites to ensure safe, aseptic care and to minimize the risk of infection transmission.

This standard applies to all chiropodists, podiatrists, and clinical support staff who are involved in procedures in a surgical or procedure room setting, including minor surgical interventions under local anesthesia ± sedation.

This standard must be applied in conjunction with the [Infection Prevention and Control Standard](#) and other applicable standards and guidelines that address patient and staff safety issues, such as [Safety and the Practice Environment](#) and [Office Medical Emergencies](#).

Definitions

- **Procedure Room / Surgical Suite:** A dedicated clinical space where invasive or semi-invasive foot care procedures are performed.
- **Between-Patient Cleaning:** Cleaning conducted between patient procedures on the same day.
- **Terminal Cleaning:** Comprehensive cleaning performed at the end of the clinical day.
- **Disinfectant:** A hospital-grade, Health Canada–approved disinfectant used according to manufacturer instructions.

Between-Patient Cleaning Procedure¹

Cleaning must be completed between patients as follows:

Preparation

- Prepare fresh disinfectant solution according to manufacturer's instructions.
- Perform hand hygiene and put on appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves.

Waste and Linen Removal

- Remove all clinical waste (including sharps, if applicable).
- Remove all soiled linen and disposable coverings.
- Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene.

Cleaning and Disinfection

Using a hospital grade disinfectant, clean and disinfect all surfaces that had contact with a patient or may be contaminated, including:

- Procedure chair/table.
- Instrument trays and work surfaces.
- Procedure lights (including reflective surfaces).
- Blood pressure cuffs, tourniquets, and monitoring equipment.
- Clean electronic equipment (e.g. monitors) according to manufacturer guidelines.

Floor Cleaning

- Damp mop the floor in a 1 to 1.3 m (3 to 4 feet) radius of the treatment area (or larger if visibly contaminated).
- Use a clean mop head for each room or procedure.

Room Reset

- Replace waste liner bags.
- Restock necessary sterile or clean supplies before the next patient.
- Clean and disinfect any mobile equipment entering or leaving the room, including:
 - Carts.
 - Imaging equipment (e.g. x-ray units, fluoroscopes).
 - Electrocautery units, surgical lasers, or compressed gas tanks.

Completion

- Remove PPE (including gloves) and perform hand hygiene.
- Place a **“Wet Floor – Surgical Suite Ready for Use”** sign at the entrance of the room.

¹ This tool is adapted from: Operating Room Nurses Association of Canada (ORNAC). Section 2: Infection prevention and control. In: The ORNAC Standards, Guidelines, and Position Statements for Perioperative Registered Nurses. 13th ed. Kingston, ON: Operating Room Nurses Association of Canada; 2017.

Terminal (End-of-Day) Cleaning Procedure²

A full terminal clean must be completed at the end of each clinical day.

Preparation

- Prepare fresh disinfectant solution according to manufacturer's instructions.
- Perform hand hygiene and put on appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves.

Waste and Linen Removal

- Remove all waste (including sharps, if applicable).
- Remove all soiled linen and disposable material or coverings.
- Remove gloves, perform hand hygiene, and put on new gloves.

Cleaning and Disinfection

Clean and disinfect all surfaces and equipment, including:

- Procedure lights and mounts.
- Door handles, light switches, and frequently touched surfaces.
- Telephones, keyboards, and clinical devices.
- All equipment surfaces (e.g. carts, suction units).
- All furniture, including wheels and bases.
- Cabinets, drawers and handles.
- All horizontal work surfaces.
- Sinks and surrounding areas.
- Walls (if visibly soiled).

Floor Cleaning

- Mop the entire floor area:
 - Move portable furniture and equipment to allow full access.
 - Use fresh cleaning solution and clean a mop head for each room.
 - Follow manufacturer instructions for dilution and contact time.

Final Steps

- Return all equipment and furniture to designated locations.
- Clean and reline waste containers.
- Report any maintenance concerns (e.g. damaged surfaces, equipment concerns)
- Clean and store housekeeping equipment properly.
- Place **“Wet Floor – Surgical Suite Ready for Use”** sign at the entrance of the room, if applicable.
- Remove PPE and perform hand hygiene.

² This tool is adapted from: Operating Room Nurses Association of Canada (ORNAC). Section 2: Infection prevention and control. In: The ORNAC Standards, Guidelines, and Position Statements for Perioperative Registered Nurses. 13th ed. Kingston, ON: Operating Room Nurses Association of Canada; 2017.

Facility Requirements for Chiropody and Podiatry Surgical Suites³

Physical Environment

- Adequate space and equipment to support safe, aseptic patient care.
- Layout must support efficient workflow of staff, patients and equipment.
- Floors, walls and surfaces must be smooth, non-porous, easily cleanable.
- Flooring seams or tiles must be sealed with a polyurethane sealant to prevent contamination.
- Adequate procedure lighting must be available.

Infection Prevention and Control

- Dedicated hand hygiene sink and appropriate supplies, including soap or antimicrobial cleaner and disposable towels.
- Environmental controls to prevent pest entry (e.g., sealed windows, self-closing doors).
- Procedure rooms must remain clean, uncluttered, and organized at all times.

Equipment and Supplies

- All required instruments and supplies must be available prior to each procedure.
- Sterile instruments must be reprocessed and stored in accordance with IPAC standards.
- Cleaning equipment must be readily available and properly maintained.

Emergency supplies must be accessible, including:

- Emergency medication appropriate to the practice and the level of risk.
- Basic resuscitation equipment (e.g. oxygen).
- Defibrillator (recommended).

Additional requirements:

- Adjustable procedure chair.
- Patient monitoring equipment must include, at minimum, a blood pressure monitor.
- All equipment must be checked before each procedure.

Safety and Emergency Preparedness

- Access routes must permit stretcher or wheelchair transport in the event of an emergency.
- Emergency protocols must be documented and readily accessible.
- An emergency power source must be available to support:
 - Essential lighting
 - Critical equipment used during procedures and post-operatively.

³ The Canadian Association for Accreditation of Ambulatory Surgical Facilities (CAAASF)

References

- [Operating Room Nurses Association of Canada \(ORNAC\) Standards \(adapted\)](#)
- [Public Health Ontario \(PIDAC\): *Best Practices for Environmental Cleaning for Infection Prevention and Control*](#)
- [Infection Prevention and Control \(IPAC\) Standard](#)
- Canadian Association for Accreditation of Ambulatory Surgical Facilities (CAAASF) (adapted for non-hospital settings)
- [Office Medical Emergencies Guideline](#)
- [Safety and the Practice Environment](#)