UCONN HEALTH

JOHN DEMPSEY HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION MANUAL

SECTION: QUALITY MANAGEMENT NUMBER: 11-030

SUBJECT: ELECTRICALLY POWERED PAGE: 1 of 3

NON- PATIENT CARE EQUIPMENT

PURPOSE:

This policy identifies non-patient care, electrically powered, line-operated equipment that is electrically safe for use at John Dempsey Hospital and identifies equipment that is approved for use within patient care areas. Guidance is determined by NFPA99 (2012) section 10.4.

POLICY:

This policy identifies types of non-patient care equipment that may pose an electrical hazard during intended use. This equipment includes that owned by the facility or patient. Consideration is given to the environment of use, maintenance, design safety features, and type of service the equipment provides.

PROCEDURE:

- 1. The supervisor of each department (or designee) will perform the following:
 - A. Follow the Hospital guidelines for purchasing non-patient care electrical equipment (see item #2).
 - B. Ensure that department personnel are trained to use this equipment properly and safely and that continuing education is provided on this equipment annually or as needed.
 - C. Ensure that electrical safety information has been presented to new employees as part of their orientation program and that electrical safety training has been included as part of annual continuing education.
 - D. Remove from service and mark "Do not use" on any non-patient care electrical equipment that appears defective or damaged; report this device to the Electrical Shop of Facilities Management and Operations (FM&O) for repair.
- 2. Supervisors of each department will use the following guidelines for purchasing and using non-patient care electrical equipment:
 - A. Household or office appliances not commonly equipped with grounding conductors in the power cords shall be permitted, provided that they are not located within the patient care vicinity. Double insulated appliances shall be permitted in the patient care vicinity,

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SECTION: QUALITY MANAGEMENT NUMBER: 11-030

SUBJECT: ELECTRICALLY POWERED PAGE: 2 of 3

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- B. UL-approved, 3-wire grounded or UL-approved double insulated equipment with heavy duty power cord and plug should be purchased for use at nurses' stations or in patient lounge areas, (If a device cannot be found with a 3-wire power cord, then a UL-approved 2-wire device may be substituted). However, the appliance should not be labelled "For Household Use".
- C. Equipment labelled "For Household Use" may be used in food preparation areas on the patient floors of the Hospital.
- 3. The Hospital and Fire Department prohibits the use of the following electrical devices anywhere in the Hospital due to the risk of electrical shock, fire and smoke hazard:
 - A. Space heaters; Only approved in non-patient care areas; Approved space heaters are available and installed through Facilities Dept.
 - B. Holiday lights
 - C. Popcorn poppers
 - D. Electric blankets
- 4. FM&O will install Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters on all outlets within 6 feet of sinks.
- 5. Entertainment equipment such as cell phones and tablets, radios, toys, games, laptop computers that are in the patient vicinity (within 6 feet of the patient bed) must be battery-powered and used on battery power only. If these devices have rechargeable batteries, then they may be recharged at the patient bed side electrical outlet after inspection by the patient care staff or other personnel. Any equipment that appears not to be in proper working order or in a worn condition shall be removed from service or reported to Facilities Department.
- 6. Televisions in patient rooms should be wall-mounted (more than 6 feet from the patient bed) and operated by remote control. Cart-mounted TV's and VCR's that are operated by patients, in patient rooms, for education and entertainment should be designed for medical use or be powered by a dedicated isolation transformer.
- 7. In accordance with NFPA 10.4.2.2, any equipment that appears not to be in proper working order or in worn condition shall be removed from service or reported to the Facilities Department.

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NUMBER:

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PAGE:

3 of 3

REFERENCE:

Approved by the Hospital Safety Committee

Andrew Agwunobi, MD, MBA

Chief Executive Officer

Richard H Simon, MD Chief of Medical Staff

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1/89

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