

THE VALLEY HOSPITAL
Ridgewood, New Jersey

PATIENT CARE SERVICES (PCS) POLICY AND PROCEDURE

SUBJECT: In Patient Bed Change Policy

POLICY: To effectively and efficiently manage linen resources, while maintaining quality patient care and comfort.

PROCEDURE:

1. A total linen change will consist of the following items:
 - 1 Fitted sheet
 - 1 Flat sheet
 - 1 Pillowcase
 - 1 Thermal blanket - to provide increased warmth for the patient, a flat sheet should be placed on top of the thermal blanket to create needed insulation and extra warmth instead of using extra thermal blankets.
 - 1 Reusable underpad is only intended for incontinent patients or for containment of bodily fluids.
2. Additional linen for patient use will include the following:
 - 1 Wash Cloth
 - 1 Towel or bath blanket
 - 1 Patient gown
3. Linen change will be completed on **even** days or more frequently if needed. Pillowcase and patient gown should be changed daily or more frequently if needed. Do not change linens on day of discharge.

Bed Linen Change Scripting for Employees:
“As part of Valley Hospital’s ongoing commitment to improving the environment by using less energy and creating less waste, we offer a solution: During your stay, we will change bed linens on **even** days, while still refreshing your room daily. If you do not wish to participate in this program, please notify your nurse and your linens will be replaced daily”.
4. Upon patient transfer to another room/unit all blankets are to remain with patient
5. All unusable torn and stained clean linen, as well as linen with small holes are not to be used and to be placed in the soiled linen hamper.

NO LINEN SHOULD BE THROWN AWAY.
6. Clean linen is not to be stored in bed stands or closets in patient’s rooms.
7. Clean linen should not be taken into the rooms of patients who are anticipating discharge.
8. Linen is not for employee personal use.

RESPONSIBILITY:

It is the responsibility of nursing leadership or management member, as appropriate to implement, maintain, evaluate, review and revise this policy.

APPROVED DATE:

Linen Utilization Committee: May 2011.

Patient Care Services Leadership: June 30, 2011.

Nurse Practice Education Council: July 8, 2011, September 13, 2013, April 10, 2105.

Nurse Practice Council: June 1, 2016



Allison Downes, RN
Chairperson, Nurse Practice Council



Ann Marie Leichman, RN
Vice President/CNO, Patient Care Services

REVIEWED/REVISED DATE:

Linen Utilization Committee: March 16, 2015

4East Medical Practice Education Committee: May 20, 2016

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