

## **POLICY APPLIES TO:**

All Mercy Staff

## **RELATED STANDARDS:**

- Cleaning Standards for Victorian Health Facilities ,2011
- EQuIP 6 - Criteria 3.2.2:
- New Zealand Infection Control Standard NZS 8143.3:2008

## **RATIONALE:**

Cleanliness of the healthcare environment is one of the key ways to prevent patients, visitors and staff acquiring a healthcare associated infection. A clean healthcare environment is essential to the safety, dignity and comfort of patients.

Mercy is committed to a patient-focused environmental cleaning service standard that promotes best practice in cleaning methodologies.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

### **Elements**

These refer to the items such as surface, article or fixture to be cleaned.

### **Functional area**

The area in which cleaning occurs. Functional areas are grouped under four risk categories; very high risk (1), high risk (2), moderate risk (3) and low risk (4). The four risk categories reflect the level of frequency and intensity of cleaning.

### **Environmental Cleaning**

The removal of all dirt and soiling to ensure the entire area is hygienically cleaned at all times.

### **Cross Contamination**

The term used to describe the transfer of bacteria from one source to another

### **Service Standard**

Declarations that dictate the expected outcome of a particular kind of procedure or task.

### **Methodology**

The methods and principles used for doing a particular kind of procedure/task.

**OBJECTIVES:**

- To identify service area functional risk levels and the required cleaning standards
- To ensure the required cleaning and overall presentation standards are met in service areas.
- To minimise hospital based infections and cross contamination
- To ensure standardisation of cleaning throughout Mercy Hospital
- To provide staff with the education required to ensure staff competence in cleaning requirements

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

- Development and maintenance of a quality cycle, refer Appendix 1
- Identify service area functional risk levels and develop cleaning guidelines and standards according to Risk Categories as per table below:

<b>Risk Categories</b>	<b>Areas</b>
<b>Very high risk Category 1:</b> required standard of cleanliness critically important	ICU CSSD Theatres Standard precaution rooms MCC - Manaaki Theatre Manaaki Cath Lab PAUC
<b>High risk Category 2:</b> Required standard of cleanliness-highly important	McAuley ward RM 32 Coolock DSU Suite 22 Manaaki Kitchen Laundry Marinoto Clinics Mercy Care East
<b>Moderate risk Category 3:</b> Required standard of cleanliness-very important	Waiting areas Public Areas Cafeteria Plantroom Manaaki Medical Stores Record Storage / Archives Administration Areas
<b>Low risk Category 4:</b> Required standard of cleanliness-important	Plant Room/workshop External Surrounds

- Use of cleaning methodologies, refer Appendix 2
- Development and maintenance of service standards, refer Appendix 3
- Completion of Mandatory Annual Environmental Training for House Keeping Staff
- House Keeping Orientation programmes

## EVALUATION:

- Audits-
- Incident forms
- Staff feedback
- Patient Feedback

## ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS:

### External -

- Australian Guidelines for the prevention and control of infection in Healthcare, 2010
- NHS Healthcare Cleaning Manual, 2014
- CDC Guidelines for Environmental Infection Control in Healthcare Facilities, 2003
- AS/NZS 4187:2003 Cleaning, disinfecting and sterilizing reusable medical instruments and equipment, and maintenance of associated environments in health care facilities. Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand

### Internal -

- Standard Precautions Policy
- MDRO policy
- Isolation policy- Transmission based precautions
- Waste Management Policy
- TSA's Work Manual
- Housekeeping Work Manual
- Housekeeping Work Guides
- Service Area Environmental Cleaning Audit tool

## APPENDICES:

Appendix 1	Environment Cleaning Quality Cycle
Appendix 2	Cleaning Methodologies
Appendix 3	Cleaning Service Standards
Appendix 4	Colour Coding