# Soiled Linen Management



## NURSE DELEGATION: INSTRUCTIONS FOR GENERAL NURSING TASK

General delegated tasks are those tasks that the Nurse identifies as general in nature and once learned can be performed for all residents. The Caregiver to whom the task is delegated must demonstrate ability to perform the task as instructed by the Nurse. By signing this delegation form, the Caregiver being delegated agrees to perform the task as taught. The nurse will review Caregiver performance annually or as needed to assure continued competency in performance of the task.

### General Task: Soiled Linen/Resident Laundry Management

### Supplies Needed

- Laundry Bag (or Pillow Case)
- Detergent and warm water
- Plastic Trash Bag
- Disposable non-sterile gloves
- Hand-washing solution

#### Procedures/Steps to Follow to Perform the Task

- 1. Don disposable gloves when handling soiled linen or laundry.
- 2. Handle soiled linens or soiled laundry as little as possible.
- 3. Bag soiled linens at bedside. Do not put soiled laundry on the floor.
- 4. Resident's personal laundry should be bagged in a separate plastic bag kept in resident's apartment.
- 5. Take bagged linens/laundry to laundry room.
- 6. Remove gloves prior to handling laundry room door and discard in plastic trash bag.
- 7. Put on a new pair of gloves before starting laundry or if any step is interrupted.
- 8. Wash soiled linens separately from personal laundry in extremely hot water with 1 cup of detergent. Wash soiled linens as soon as possible after collection to prevent the growth and spread of bacteria.
- 9. If linens or personal laundry are soiled with feces urine or other body fluids, the wash cycle should be run through twice, and then the laundry should be dried.
- 10. Clean the contaminated washing machine by running it through a full wash cycle on hot setting before using it for another resident's laundry.
- 11. Remove gloves after each step and wash hands with hand-washing liquid.
- 12. Wash hands as taught in General Task Hand-washing at a designated hand-washing area as soon as possible after completing laundry.

#### Outcomes

- 1. Spread of infections will be prevented.
- 2. A clean environment will be maintained.

Potential Risks/Side Effects and Appropriate Actions to Deal with them (include what to observe for and report, what to do, and whom to contact

None

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General Task: Soiled Linen/Personal Laundry Management

Signature of CAREGIVER	Signature of Delegating Nurse	Delegation Competency Review Date
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