

COBB COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD DOUGLAS COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

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Policy # 9002	Colostomy/Ileostomy Care		
Origination Date: February 1998			
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PURPOSE:

To assist, supervise and teach clients and family members appropriate care of a colostomy/ileostomy.

PROCEDURE:

- 1. Assessment:
 - a. Identify the type of ostomy the client has and its location.
 - b. Assess client knowledge and abilities re: caring for his/her ostomy.
 - c. Ask client to see if he/she has enterstomal nurse and consult as needed.
 - d. Empty the pouch when it is 1/3 to $\frac{1}{2}$ full
- 2. Gather supplies:
 - a. plastic bag for disposal of soiled tissues, dressings etc.,
 - b. towel or sheet to cover bedding,
 - c. tissue for wiping sway stool,
 - d. clean ostomy bag of the type used by client,
 - e. seal or adhesive (may be attached to bag),
 - f. scissors,
 - g. clean belt (if used by client),
 - h. 4" x 4" sponges,
 - i. basin for warm water,
 - j. anti-bacterial or mild liquid soap, and
 - k. gloves.
- 3. Choose area where client is most comfortable in conducting procedure that affords privacy.
- 4. Wash hands and put on gloves.
- 5. Unfasten belt-keeping bag in place.
- 6. Gently peel away adhesive holding bag in place, being careful not to damage the skin.
- 7. Assess skin integrity around stoma.
- 8. Empty contents of bag into toilet if indicated (place toilet paper in toilet bowl to reduce splash back), and if bag is disposable place old pouch in another plastic bag and place in trash.
- 9. Using 4" x 4" sponge, gently cleanse area around stoma using warm soapy water. Rinse with clear warm water. Pat dry with a 4" x 4" sponge. Dispose of 4" x 4" sponges in plastic bag.
- 10. Use adhesive supplied by client. If karaya gum ring is used, soften by running under hot water. If another type adhesive is used, follow directions for that product.
- 11. Using scissors cut opening similar to stoma shape on clean bag and attach around stoma

securely, making sure seepage cannot occur, attach to new belt if used.

- 12. Wash the soiled belt in warm, soapy water and hang up to dry.
- 13. Dispose of all used materials in plastic bag and then seal the bag and dispose of contents in another plastic bag.
- 14. Remove gloves and wash hands thoroughly.
- 15. Review process with client focusing on any client concerns and knowledge deficits.
- 16. Document procedure in Nursing Progress Notes indicating clients response to ostomy and care, ability to care for his/her stoma, identified problems and interventions.
- 17. Contact physician if:
 - Client has a fever
 - Has foul odor coming from colostomy bag or stoma that lasts longer than a week
 - Client's skin around stoma becomes red and irritated.
 - Client has nausea/vomiting, pain, cramping and or bloating
 - Client does not have regular bowel movements thorough the stoma
 - Clients stoma size changes
- 18. Immediately notify physician or call 911 if:
 - Client's bowel movements are black and or bloody
 - Clients stoma does not stop bleeding
 - Client is too weak to stand up
 - Client has severe abdominal pain