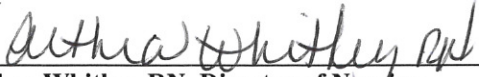
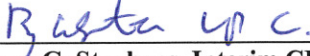




COBB COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
DOUGLAS COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

Page 1 of 2

Policy # 9007	Incontinence Care
Origination Date: February 1998	
Revision Date: June 2004; March 27, 2006; January 28, 2009	
Reviewed Date: February 2005; July 20, 2007; May 18, 2010, October 3, 2012, May 8, 2013, July 25, 2016	
Approved:	
 Althea Whitley, RN, Director of Nursing	 Bryan G. Stephens, Interim CEO

PURPOSE:

To ensure that careful attendance to and frequent diaper changing protects the genitalia, perineum and buttocks from irritation, chafing, and excoriation. Frequent checks/changes also allow for the assessment of fecal and urinary elimination with prompt treatment of any skin breakdown or irritation. Only disposable diapers will be used for incontinent clients.

PROCEDURE:

Perineal care (penile, vaginal and rectal areas) should be given after each voiding and defecation.

1. For clients who wear diapers:

- a. Check the diaper at least every two hours and/or as needed to see whether the diaper is dry.
- b. Assess ability to cooperate/mobility and explain procedure.
- c. Ensure the size of the disposable diaper fits client. Obtain diaper.
- d. Gather other supplies: gloves, mild soap and water or a mild cleansing solution; personal care wipes; gloves and exam paper. Do not use toilet paper or paper towels.
- e. Wash hands and apply gloves.
- f. Provide privacy and select a safe area for changing diaper to ensure good body mechanics. Never leave the person unattended.
- g. Place person on his/her back and place exam paper or equivalent under the person (unless standing is preferred). Remove the soiled diaper using the clean portion of the diaper to wipe away any fecal material. Wipe from the front to back to avoid spreading microbes from the anal area to the vagina or urethra on female clients.
- h. Cleanse the perineum thoroughly.
For females, gently separate the labial folds and wipe from front to back to remove any secretions and to help eliminate odors. For males, beginning with the end of the penis and moving downward along the shaft, gently clean skin area. Retract the foreskin of the uncircumcised male gently to avoid causing irritation or pain, cleanse the underlying tissue, rinse and dry thoroughly, replace the foreskin over the end of the penis.
- i. Place a clean diaper on the client. Check the diaper for a secure fit and ensure comfort. Make sure diaper is not too tight.
- j. Dispose of equipment and soiled items in a covered trashcan.
- k. Remove gloves and wash hands.
- l. Record the number of diaper changes and the appearance and any unusual odor of the urine and stool. Report any abnormal findings to the designated caregiver (parent or guardian) and/or nurse.

2. For clients with bowel and bladder incontinence who do not wear diapers:
 - a. Gather supplies: gloves, disposable wipes, plastic bag, clothing change.
 - b. Wash hands and apply gloves.
 - c. Provide privacy for the incontinent person to remove soiled garments.
 - d. Place soiled garments in plastic bag.
 - e. Give the person a change of clean clothing if available. Launder soiled/wet clothing if a laundry facility is available. (Needs to be laundered separately followed by spraying the washer with approved disinfectant.)
 - f. Clean, while wearing gloves, any excess urine or feces in the area with a paper towel. Then spray area with an approved disinfectant spray. In areas of rugs/upholstery clean area with soap and water and then spray with an approved disinfectant spray.