STERILE FIELD SET-UPS FOR INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY.

Purpose: To provide guidelines for standards of care in IR and maintaining aseptic technique while setting up procedures.

Creating and maintaining a sterile field is an essential component of aseptic technique. A sterile field is an area created by placing sterile surgical drapes around the patient’s surgical site and on the table that will hold sterile instruments and other supplies needed during a procedure. All staff should have on sterile gloves, mask and cap when setting up field. When staff has donned proper sterile surgical attire, the sterile area is the only area that should come in contact with the sterile field. Only sterile objects and personnel may be allowed within the sterile field. When a sterile field is created around a procedure site, items below the level of the draped patient are outside the field and are not sterile. A head holder may be placed above the patient’s upper body to prevent falling of drapes on the airway of patient. The doors entering the IR suite should be closed during the set-up for procedures. When removing a drape a sterile dressing should be used to cover site prior to removal of drape to prevent cross contamination to procedure site.

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