

# ANAESTHETIC BAY OR PLASTER ROOM PROCEDURES - MANAGEMENT - OPERATING SUITE CHW POLICY®

## DOCUMENT SUMMARY/KEY POINTS

- Procedures in anaesthetic bays can only be performed following consultation with the Duty Anaesthetist, Operating Suite Floor Nursing Unit Manager (NUM) and Anaesthetic / Post Anaesthetic Care Unit (PACU) NUM or PACU Team Leader.
- This policy includes plaster room procedures where an anaesthetic nurse and a circulating nurse are required.
- Procedures performed in the anaesthetic bay must have a designated anaesthetic nurse available during preparation, induction, maintenance and conclusion of anaesthesia <sup>1,2</sup>
- An additional anaesthetic nurse must be immediately available to assist in the operating room (OR) if required <sup>2</sup>
- For procedures requiring a surgeon, there must be one designated circulating nurse provided (to complete documentation and prepare equipment) in addition to the anaesthetic nurse. One of the two designated nurses must be a Registered Nurse (RN)

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This document reflects what is currently regarded as safe practice. However, as in any clinical situation, there may be factors which cannot be covered by a single set of guidelines. This document does not replace the need for the application of clinical judgement to each individual presentation.

<b>Approved by:</b>	SCHN Policy, Procedure and Guideline Committee	
<b>Date Effective:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> November 2022	<b>Review Period:</b> 3 years
<b>Team Leader:</b>	Clinical Nurse Educator	<b>Area/Dept:</b> Operating Theatre CHW

## CHANGE SUMMARY

- Updated ACORN standards and designated nurse requirements.
- Updated list of appropriate procedures
- Addition of exclusion criteria if any patient in the operating room, anaesthetic bay or plaster room has a transmissible infection

## READ ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- Read Acknowledge Only – Perioperative Staff, Anaesthetists, Surgeons

This document reflects what is currently regarded as safe practice. However, as in any clinical situation, there may be factors which cannot be covered by a single set of guidelines. This document does not replace the need for the application of clinical judgement to each individual presentation.

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## Introduction

Minor procedures in anaesthetic bays can only be performed following consultation with the Duty Anaesthetist, Operating Suite Floor NUM and Anaesthetic/PACU NUM or PACU Team Leader. This includes plaster room procedures where an anaesthetic nurse and/or a circulating nurse are required.

## Policy

- Procedures in anaesthetic bays or plaster rooms should only be performed when:
  - The procedure currently in the OR is of long duration (i.e. the anaesthetic bay procedure will be completed before the OR procedure finishes).
  - The patient in the OR is stable and the procedure requires minimal assistance from the anaesthetic nurse (i.e. not during cardiac, burns, airway procedures and procedures requiring significant blood transfusions / ABG's).
  - An additional anaesthetic nurse is immediately available to assist in the OR if needed whilst the anaesthetic bay or plaster room procedure is underway.
  - Patient age, skill of the anaesthetist and availability of additional anaesthetic support has been considered
  - Both patients involved **do not** have a transmissible infection

**Procedures that require only an anaesthetic nurse** (include but are not limited to):

- Anaesthetic central venous access lines (e.g. PICC lines)
- Lumbar puncture and bone marrow aspirate
- Bone biopsy
- Eye moulding (If an Examination Under Anaesthesia (EUA) of eyes is **not performed**)

**For procedures requiring a surgeon**, there must be one designated circulating nurse provided (to complete the documentation and prepare equipment) in addition to the designated anaesthetic nurse. Procedures that require an anaesthetic nurse and a circulating nurse (one of whom must be an RN) include:

- Closed reduction of fractures (Not requiring imaging)
- EUA of eyes
- Tissue expander injections
- Adductor tenotomy (Plaster room)
- Application of hip spica (Plaster room)
- Arthrograms (Plaster room)
- Halo traction application
- Moulding for spinal brace

For lists booked with the specific intention to perform some of the elective procedures simultaneously in the anaesthetic bay or plaster room (i.e. orthopaedics, tissue expanders, EUA of eyes) the NUM's should be made aware at the 'weekly schedule meeting' by the Nurse Scheduler to ensure they can provide the extra circulating nurse and anaesthetic nurse for the anaesthetic bay or plaster room.

**Procedures that are inappropriate and excluded from the anaesthetic bay** include but are not limited to:

- Removal of central lines
- Lacerations requiring suturing
- Foreign body removals
- Rectal washouts
- Procedures requiring use of diathermy and lasers
- Burns dressings
- Dental extractions
- Any procedure requiring more than a minor instrument tray

**Additional procedures must not be performed if any patient (in the anaesthetic bay, plaster room or OR) has a transmissible infection**

## References:

1. Australian College of Perioperative Nurses Ltd (ACORN). Standards for Perioperative Nursing in Australia 16<sup>th</sup> ed: Volume 2 – Professional Standards [Internet]. 2020 [cited 2022 July 5]. Available from <https://www.acorn.org.au/standards>
2. Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA). Position statement on the assistant for the anaesthetist, PS08 (A) [Internet]. 2016 [cited 2022 July 5]. Available from [https://www.anzca.edu.au/getattachment/473f7e0d-b14a-4939-aad1-034c0474c603/PS08\(A\)-Position-statement-on-the-assistant-for-the-anaesthetist-\(PS08\)#page=](https://www.anzca.edu.au/getattachment/473f7e0d-b14a-4939-aad1-034c0474c603/PS08(A)-Position-statement-on-the-assistant-for-the-anaesthetist-(PS08)#page=)

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