	The Johns Hopkins Hospital	<i>Policy Number</i>	IFC028
	INTERDISCIPLINARY CLINICAL PRACTICE MANUAL	<i>Effective Date</i>	11/30/03
	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Page</i>	1 of 3
	INFECTION CONTROL - TOY CLEANING	<i>Supersedes</i>	3/01

KEY WORDS: toys, toy cleaning, toy disinfection

POLICY

Toys will be selected and cleaned in the approved manner to prevent the spread of infection. This policy applies to toys owned/used by JHH/JHU/JHMI staff.

RESPONSIBILITIES


JHH/JHU/JHMI Staff	Must follow the requirements of the Toy Cleaning Policy.
Supervisor/Department Managers	Educate and ensure employee compliance with the Toy Cleaning Policy. Insure that appropriate toys are purchased for their area of responsibility.
Hospital Epidemiology and Infection Control Department	Assist with staff education as requested.

DEFINITIONS

- Toy:** A toy is any object used for recreational, therapeutic or educational purposes.
- Toy Selection:** Toys will be chosen with hard surfaces (plastic, vinyl, varnished or painted wood, metal), which can be thoroughly cleaned and dried.

I. GENERAL CLEANING

- A. All toys are to be examined after each use by child life staff, volunteers, or unit staff for safe construction, small parts, breaks and cleanliness. If toy is broken or unable to be cleaned, the toy shall be discarded.
- B. After use, *all* toys that have been used in patient rooms, have been soiled with body fluids, or handled by a child who has respiratory symptoms or places hands in diapers will be **placed in the dirty toy box for cleaning** and inspection.
- C. All toys in the **dirty toy box** will be disinfected with the appropriate disinfectant (see Toy Cleaning Procedure).
- D. Hard plastic toys that are washed in a dishwasher do not need to be additionally disinfected.
- E. Wall-mounted or table-mounted toys should be cleaned weekly and when obviously soiled, utilizing a soap and water wash followed by clear water rinsing and air drying and/or use of appropriate disinfectant spray.
- F. Toys such as electronic games, wind-up toys, and other toys that would be damaged with soap and water can be sprayed with an appropriate spray disinfectant.

	The Johns Hopkins Hospital	<i>Policy Number</i>	IFC028
	INTERDISCIPLINARY CLINICAL PRACTICE MANUAL	<i>Effective Date</i>	11/30/03
	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Page</i>	2 of 3
	INFECTION CONTROL - TOY CLEANING	<i>Supersedes</i>	3/01


- G. Only **new** stuffed animals and **new** cloth dolls can be accepted by the hospital and even then **cannot** be used by more than one child or in a group situation. They should be given to one child to use and take home.
- H. Books and laminated posters should be wiped off with an appropriate disinfectant when removed from patient room.
- I. In construction of toys and mobiles, materials will only be used which can be thoroughly cleaned.
- J. Toys brought in by family members must not be shared.

II. TOYS FOR ISOLATION

- A. Toys will be disinfected with bleach solution after use in an isolation room.
- B. Ideally, toys should be cleaned immediately. If not, they must be put in a bag to indicate they have not been cleaned.
- C. Books may be taken into isolation rooms for children over age 4 (assuming they are not “mouthing” them). After use in an isolation room, book covers should be wiped clean with bleach solution. They may then be reused unless they are visibly soiled. If the soiled book cannot be cleaned, it must be discarded.
- D. If toys with porous surfaces (e.g. stuffed animals) that cannot be effectively cleaned are given to children in isolation, these toys must be kept by the child and taken home upon discharge or discarded.

III. PROCEDURE

- A. Cleaning and Disinfection of Toys
 1. Scrub the toy in warm, soapy water. Use a brush to reach into the crevices.
 2. Rinse the toy in clean water.
 3. Immerse the toy in the bleach solution (see below) and allow it to soak in the solution for 10 minutes. If the toy cannot be immersed, wipe thoroughly with the bleach solution
 4. Remove the toy from the bleach solution.
 5. Rinse the toy well in clean water.
 - a. If the toy cannot be immersed, wipe with clean water.
 6. Toys are not to be stored wet - air dry, dry in a dryer, or dry with a clean towel.
- B. Preparing Bleach Solution 0.05% (Sodium hypo chlorite)
 1. Add 1-ounce bleach to 49 ounces tap water. (1:50 dilution).

	The Johns Hopkins Hospital	<i>Policy Number</i>	IFC028
	INTERDISCIPLINARY CLINICAL PRACTICE MANUAL	<i>Effective Date</i>	11/30/03
	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Page</i>	3 of 3
	INFECTION CONTROL - TOY CLEANING	<i>Supersedes</i>	3/01

2. Bleach solution needs to be mixed daily if using an open basin. The bleach solution can be mixed monthly if the container is opaque and has a tight lid.
3. If a container is used, label container "1:50 bleach solution" and write expiration date of 1 month on it.
4. Store in a cool place out of direct sunlight and out of the reach of children.

REFERENCES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "The ABC's of Safe and Healthy Child Care"
<http://www.cdc.gov>.

DEVELOPER

- Hospital Epidemiology & Infection Control Department

SPONSOR

- Medical Care Evaluation Committee

COMMUNICATION & EDUCATION

This policy will be communicated to the appropriate JHHS personnel via the following channels:

1. Updates and revisions will be communicated via Medical Staff and Nursing publications.
2. Nurse Managers, Physician Advisors, Residency Coordinators, Department Chiefs and Department Management will be responsible to train new employees regarding the policy as appropriate, and to communicate updates to the protocol.
3. This policy will be placed in the Interdisciplinary Clinical Practice Manual on the JHH Intranet site <http://www.insidehopkinsmedicine.org/icpm>. Paper distributions will be made to the Functional Unit Nursing offices in the event of web access difficulty.
4. Placement of policy online at www.hopkins-HEIC.org.

REVIEW CYCLE	▪ Three (3) years	MEDICAL BOARD	Approval Date: 8/12/03 Effective Date: 11/30/03
VICE PRESIDENT FOR NURSING & PATIENT SERVICES		VICE PRESIDENT FOR MEDICAL AFFAIRS	
_____		_____	
Date:		Date:	