



## Spotlight on Patient Safety

### Patient Safety is a Team Effort! How can you help?

- Hand washing and changing gloves between tasks are the two most important actions that you can take to prevent transmission of infection from person to person.
- Use appropriate PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) such as gloves, masks (with and without face shields), gowns and respirator masks as necessary.
- Ensure that all patients wear an Identification Band. NEVER dispense medications, distribute a meal tray, draw blood or perform a test or procedure on a patient who is not wearing an ID bracelet.
- Never use the contents of an unlabeled container. If unsure about the contents, ask your Manager for direction.
- Everyone is part of the Fall Prevention Team. If you see something on the floor that does not belong, pick it up; clean up spills immediately; keep hallways and patient rooms clutter free; be sure to lock the wheels of beds, stretchers and wheelchairs when moving patients on or off such equipment.
- Remove broken equipment from service immediately, tag and send for repair.

### Every department has specific patient safety responsibilities. For example:

**On the clinical units:** medication safety involves dispensing the right dose of the right drug, to the right patient at the right time via the right route. Never dispense medications to a patient without an identification band.

**Dietary:** all patients must receive age appropriate meals. For example, items such as grapes, hot dogs or chicken on the bone should never be on the tray of a toddler.

**Housekeeping:** chemicals should never be left unsupervised on housekeeping carts. When washing the floors, wash one side at a time using the appropriate "Wet Floor" signs. Allow to dry thoroughly before washing the other side.

**Transporters:** must be able to identify age appropriate needs of the patient, never leaving the wheelchair or stretcher unattended.

**Radiology:** be aware of proper positioning techniques for the patient to avoid injury.

**Patient Registration:** be sure the patient's name is spelled correctly on the ID bracelet. Instruct the patient about Patient Rights and Responsibilities.

*Make TRMC a Safe Harbor for our patients, visitors and staff.*