



## ARROWHEAD REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER INFECTION CONTROL MANUAL

POLICY NO 315 Issue 1  
Page: 1 of 2

---

**SECTION:** III. CONTROL OF INFECTIONS

**SUBJECT:** Shared Toys, Pediatric Areas

**APPROVED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Epidemiology Healthcare Program Administrator

---

### POLICY

Infection control practices are followed in Pediatric areas to prevent the spread of infection. There are many host factors unique to children that place them at risk for acquiring infectious diseases. Young children are generally incapable of caring for themselves and rely on others for adequate hygiene. Equipment, toys and cribs can be important sources of infection.

### BACKGROUND

Transmission of infection can be reduced by educating caregivers, both at home and in the hospital, to practice good hand hygiene, environmental sanitation, and appropriate food handling. Principles of infection control include good hand hygiene practices and environmental cleaning. Children are often in close proximity to each other and may spend time in common areas, such as playrooms and share contaminated toys.

### PROCEDURE

- I. Surfaces in the playroom, including shared toys are cleaned once per day by Environmental Services (EVS) using a hospital approved disinfectant.
- II. Shared toys provided in common areas such as playrooms or waiting rooms should have a non-porous surface and be easily cleaned.
- III. Water-retaining toys, soft/ stuffed toys are to be avoided.
- IV. Shared toys that have become contaminated with secretions should be thoroughly washed with a food grade disinfectant or bleach solution 1:100, and air dried completely between patients.
- V. Clean toys should be separated from dirty ones, which are set aside for EVS to clean.

**REFERENCES:** Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, Pediatrics, 2005,

**DEFINITIONS:** N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:** N/A

<b>APPROVAL DATE:</b>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>Policy, Procedure and Standards Committee</u>
	<u>7/25/19</u>	<u>Infection Control Committee</u> Applicable Administrator, Hospital or Medical Committee
	<u>7/30/19</u>	<u>Patient Safety and Quality Committee</u> Applicable Administrator, Hospital or Medical Committee
	<u>7/31/19</u>	<u>Quality Management Committee</u> Applicable Administrator, Hospital or Medical Committee
	<u>8/1/19</u>	<u>Medical Executive Committee</u> Applicable Administrator, Hospital or Medical Committee
		<u>Board of Supervisors</u> Approved by the Governing Body

REPLACES: N/A

EFFECTIVE: 8/1/19

REVISED: N/A

REVIEWED: N/A