

# Valuables and Belongings (Patient) in the Operating Room

<b>Site Applicability:</b>
SPH Operating Rooms
<b>Scope:</b>
Operating Room staff are responsible for documenting the disposition of patient belongings that come to the area
<b>Procedures:</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The patient may come to the OR with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>glasses</li> <li>dentures</li> <li>hearing aids (It is preferable for hearing aids to remain available to the patient.)</li> <li>items such as wig, limb prosthesis, religious article, clothing</li> </ul> <p>Document the disposition/location of these items in the Valuables/Belongings section in the Periop Preprocedure Checklist. They may remain on or with the patient, at the discretion of the OR team, or be returned to the nursing unit. If returning the item to the nursing unit (SDC or inpatient) ask the porter/ward aide to take the item there.</p> <p>Document what was removed, description, number, where sent (location), and delivered by whom in the Valuables/Belongings section. It is also acceptable to give an item to a family member, if that is the patient's wish.</p> <p>If an item is to remain with the patient, provide a labelled container.</p> </li> <li>If the patient comes to the OR with valuables (e.g., jewelry, money, credit cards, electronics, etc.), the item(s) must be returned to the nursing unit (SDC or inpatient) or given to a family member. Follow the steps listed above re documentation. <b>Valuables must not remain with the patient in the OR. Do not attach valuables to the patient's chart.</b></li> <li>If the patient comes from Emergency with a bag of belongings, ask the patient if the bag contains any valuables. If so, ask the patient to show you the item(s) and list it (them) in the Valuables/Belongings section. Place the labelled bag in a locker. Document the location of the bag. Other labelled valuables may also be placed in the locker and documented.</li> <li>In some instances, it is best to send items to the Cashier for safekeeping (e.g., if the patient arrives with a large amount of cash). Place the item(s) in the "Storage Envelope Temporary</li> </ol>

Storage of Patient Valuables" (PHC-AD052) and complete the Personal Belongings form (PHC-SE003). Send the envelope and one copy of the form to Cashier (first floor, Burrard Building). (There is a secure drop box after hours.) Place the other two copies of the form in the chartlet. Document in the Valuables/Belongings section, including who delivered the envelope to the Cashier.

5. If the patient arrives with bags of belongings and the situation is urgent, or the patient unable to communicate, lock the bag(s) in a locker. In your documentation, state that the content of the bags is unknown.
6. Upon transfer to PACU, inform the PACU nurse of the location of valuables and belongings.

### **Related Documents:**

1. [B-00-11-10148](#) - Safe Keeping of Patient and Resident Valuables
2. [B-00-12-10055](#) - Pre-Operative Patient Preparation
3. [B-00-12-10171](#) - Pre-Operative Admission for Patients Attending Surgical Day Care (SPH)

APPROVALS			
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DEVELOPERS/OWNER			
(e.g. Developer Team Members)	OR Consultant, OR Educator		06/16/2022
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