

SOP FOR BAG TECHNIQUE IN COMMUNITY

Definition Bag technique –A tool making use of public health bag through which the nurse, during his/her home visit, can perform nursing procedures with ease and deftness, saving time and effort with the end in view of rendering effective nursing care.

The nurse's bag is the vehicle for carrying the tools needed during a home visit.

The public health nurse bag is designed to carry equipment and material needed during a visit to the home, school, and factory. Equipment and material are needed to make test and to demonstrate patient care such as eye irrigation, application of ointment and medications, urine testing etc. The bag should be made up of canvas, leather, or light metal, rexin. The bag can be carried by the hand or on the shoulder.

Importance of bag usage

1. The public health bag is needed during each home, school or industrial visit. The bag is needed to keep everything inside and outside the bag that are needed to do the procedures in the homes.
2. Demonstration of nursing care requires essential materials ready for use which are carried in the bag.
3. Cleanliness in one of the main lessons to learn and teach the use of the bag is an excellent demonstration of cleanliness.
4. Placing the articles in proper place.

Principles

1. Cleanliness: The bag and its contents are all designed for efficiency and cleanliness.
2. The hand must be washed with soap and water each time before touching the bag. The nurse must avoid touching dirty or contaminated things after or in between time of washing.
3. The bag should be kept in clean and without danger of being contaminated and the children or pet animals.
4. Placing the bag over newspaper or met.
5. Clean or boil the articles after using and replace it safely.
6. Avoid unnecessary exposure while done procedure.
7. Secure the bag by often cleaning and should be covered properly when it is not in use.
8. The use of the bag technique should minimize if not totally prevent the spread of infection from individuals to families, hence, to the community.
9. Bag technique should save time and effort on the part of the nurse in the performance of nursing procedures.
10. Bag technique should not overshadow concern for the patient rather should show the effectiveness of total care given to an individual or family.
11. Bag technique can be performed in a variety of ways depending upon agency policies, actual home situation, etc., as long as principles of avoiding transfer of infection is carried out.

Special Considerations in the Use of the Bag

1. The bag should contain all necessary articles, supplies and equipment which may be used to answer emergency needs.
2. The bag and its contents should be cleaned as often as possible, supplies replaced and ready for use at any time.
3. The bag and its contents should be well protected from contact with any article in the home of the patients. Consider the bag and its contents clean and /or sterile while any article belonging to the patient as dirty and contaminated.
4. The arrangement of the contents of the bag should be the one most convenient to the user to facilitate the efficiency and avoid confusion.
5. Hand washing is done as frequently as the situation calls for, helps in minimizing or avoiding contamination of the bag and its contents.
6. The bag when used for a communicable case should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before keeping and re-using.

Equip the bag with the following article

1. Front pocket: Nail brush, nail cutter, towel, soap case and soap
2. Right side pocket: Newspaper or plastic sheet, inch tap , fetoscope
3. Left side pocket: Stationeries, family folder, waste paper bag.
4. Uper compartment: (sterile chamber) Artery forceps, thumb forceps, small bowel and scissors, medication box, clinical and rectal thermometer, sterile dressings in a bowel, a pair of disposable gloves, antiseptic container, savlon , betadine, benedict's solution, acetic acid, ethylated spirit and eye drop or eye ointments, tallquist paper (for checking haemoglobin),
5. Lower compartment: Urine analysis kit should contain the following such as specimen bottle, kidney tray, test-tube, test-tube holder, match box, spirit lamp, and brush etc.

Contents of the Bag

Paper lining

- ♣ Extra paper for making bag for waste materials (paper bag)
- ♣ Plastic linen/lining
- ♣ Apron
- ♣ Hand towel in plastic bag
- ♣ Soap in soap dish
- ♣ Thermometers in case [one oral and rectal]
- ♣ 2 pairs of scissors [1 surgical and 1 bandage]
- ♣ 2 pairs of forceps [curved and straight]
- ♣ Syringes [5 ml and 2 ml]

- ♣ Hypodermic needles g. 19, 22, 23, 25
- ♣ Sterile dressings [OS, C.B]
- ♣ Sterile Cord Tie
- ♣ Adhesive Plaster
- ♣ Dressing [OS, cotton ball]
- ♣ Alcohol lamp
- ♣ Tape Measure
- ♣ Baby's scale
- ♣ 1 pair of rubber gloves
- ♣ 2 test tubes
- ♣ Test tube holder
- ♣ Medicines
- ♣ betadine
- ♣ 70% alcohol
- ♣ ophthalmic ointment (antibiotic)
- ♣ hydrogen peroxide
- ♣ spirit of ammonia
- ♣ acetic acid
- ♣ Benedict's solution

Note: Blood Pressure Apparatus and Stethoscope are carried separately.

Steps/Procedures

1. Select a work area according to the convenient of the family.
2. Keep the bag in a mat or newspaper in a veranda and placing the bag on a paper.
3. Unbutton the bag of lower compartment.
4. Remove the hand washing items and wash hands under the poured or tap water.
5. Be careful not to contaminate the side that touches to your uniform.
6. Prepare newspaper waste bag.
7. Remove the item needed from the outside compartment if needed.
8. The items needed for the procedure place in the clean area.

9. Close the bag securely.
10. Give nursing care as desired, based on the plan.
11. When the procedure is over, wash hand with soap under poured water or tap water.
12. Replace the articles to the bag after cleaning.
13. Fold used newspaper with used side inside and keep it is you bag.
14. Close the bag.
15. Record your observation or what was done or instruction given and plans for next visit.

After Care

1. Before keeping all articles in the bag, clean and alcoholised them.
2. Get the bag from the table, fold the paper lining (and insert), and place in between the flaps and cover the bag.
3. Record all relevant findings about the client and members of the family.
4. Take note of environmental factors which affect the clients/family health.
5. Include quality of nurse-patient relationship.
6. Assess effectiveness of nursing care provided.