

CONNECTICUT VALLEY HOSPITAL
Nursing Policy and Procedure

SECTION C: PSYCHOLOGICAL ADAPTATION
CHAPTER 10: PSYCHIATRIC INTERVENTIONS AND SPECIAL PROCEDURES

POLICY & PROCEDURE 10.14: POSEY BODY BLANKET

Standard of Practice:

The nurse will supervise his/her trained staff to safely utilize the Posey Body Blanket only for transport of patients who have had prior approval.

Standard of Care:

The patient can expect to be protected from injury through competent assessment and interventions by the RN. The patient can expect that his/her safety and comfort are ensured.

Purpose:

Procedure:

a. Indications:

1. The Posey Body Blanket may only be used for short distance transport of patients who have been approved following an administrative review by the Chief of Professional Services and the Director of Patient Care Services for use during a psychiatric emergency as documented in the patient's Master Treatment Plan or Focused Treatment Plan Review.
2. Posey Body Blanket may only be used by trained staff.

b. Contraindications:

Contraindications include but are not limited to the following conditions:

- Patients with ostomy, colostomy, G-tubes, hernias.
- Patients with severe Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD).
- Those with post-surgery incisions that may be compromised by the pressure from a restrictive product.
- Patients with dislocations, fractures, or open wounds.

c. Application:

1. Select the Body Blanket size that best fits the patient.
2. Position the Body Blanket so that the Velcro is vertical and the soft part of the Velcro is towards the patient.
3. Wrap the Body Blanket around the patient, keeping his/her arms to his/her sides. Velcro closure to be positioned in the front of the patient.
4. Firmly fasten the Velcro to secure the blanket around the patient.

5. Be sure the wrap is tight enough to prevent the patient from raising his/her arms and or kicking his/her legs, but not tight enough to impair circulation or interfere with breathing. One should be able to slide open hand between the blanket and the patient.
6. Use handles to gently lower the patient to the floor or to transport to a safe location.

d. Cleaning:

1. Select low temperature for wash and dry cycles.
2. Fasten the Velcro during laundering to prevent build up of lint.
3. Inspect the Body Blanket after cleaning. The Velcro closure material has a tendency to collect lint after repeated use and/or laundering, reducing the grip strength. Test for strength and security before the Body Wrap is returned to the storage area. Occasionally go over hard Velcro with a stiff brush to remove lint. Obtain replacement if the Body Blanket's Velcro does not hold securely.