HEALTH HOLDING

HAFER ALBATIN HEALTH CLUSTER MATERNITY AND CHILDREN HOSPITAL

Department:	Infection Prevention and Control Department		
Document:	Multidisciplinary Policy and Procedure (MPP)		
Title:	Single Use Devices (SUD)		
Applies To:	Nurses and Technician		
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1. PURPOSE:

1.1 The primary purpose of single-use devices is to ensure hygiene, safety, and convenience, minimizing the risk of cross-contamination or infection (particularly in healthcare settings), reducing the need for cleaning and sterilization, and simplifying processes.

2. DEFINITONS:

2.1 A single-use device (SUD) is a product designed and manufactured to be used once and then discarded after its intended purpose is fulfilled. These devices are not intended to be reused, reprocessed, or sterilized for reuse, primarily to prevent contamination, ensure patient safety, and avoid cross-infection. Single-use devices are in medical, healthcare, and industrial settings, with examples including syringes, gloves, scalpels, and IV tubing.

2.2 Reuse refers to the use of an item labelled by the original manufacturer as a single-use or disposable patient care item that has been cleaned, disinfected, or sterilized and then tested for functionality after its original use on a patient

2.3 Reprocessing refers to the cleaning, disinfecting, repackaging, and sterilizing of an item that was either (a) used on a patient or (b) not used on a patient but has its original packaging compromised. Manufacturer's instructions now known as information for use (IFU) must be adhered to when evaluating reprocessing of SUD

3. POLICY:

3.1 Implementation of policy for "No Reuse of single use items" based on the national regulations. Examples include syringes, gloves, bandages, and certain medical instruments.

3.2 The MCH facilities should not reprocess used SUDs for reuse because it is not safe.

3.3 SUD refers to a patient care item intended to be used once on an individual patient during a single procedure and then discarded. This item is labelled as "single-use" or "disposable."

3.4 Reprocessing a SUD may affect the function of the device and/or material from which the device is made. Single-use devices may not be designed to allow for thorough decontamination and re-sterilization processes. Unforeseen problems such as inadequate decontamination, material alteration, mechanical failure, and residual chemical agents can render the reprocessed item unsafe. In addition, validation of the SUD's functionality after reprocessing cannot be guaranteed.

3.5 Critical and semi-critical medical equipment/devices labelled as SUD must not be reprocessed and reused unless the reprocessing is carried out by a licensed re-processor who can validate the functionality of the reprocessed SUD.

4. PROCEDURE:

4.1 SUDs must be discarded by the end user at the point of use as per hospital waste disposal protocol.

4.2 Single Use Device: should not be reprocessed or used again, even on the same patient.

4.3 Disposable single use devices that have been opened and not used; should not be reprocessed(i.e., re-sterilized).

4.4 Single use devices may not be designed for thorough decontamination and re-sterilization process after the first use.

4.5 The international symbol for single-use devices (SUDs) is a distinctive "crossed-out circle" (⌀) with a number indicating the number of uses, or sometimes just a simple "single-use" label. This symbol is often accompanied by additional labeling that indicates that the device is not intended for reuse and should be disposed of after a single use to ensure safety and hygiene.

4.6 These devices are packaged and marked as "single use" or have international sign for single use items. The general idea is to clearly communicate that the device should only be used once to prevent potential risks, such as contamination or infection. In healthcare contexts, these symbols are usually found on the packaging or on the device itself.

5. MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT:

5.1 **Forms and Records:**

5.1.1 N/A

5.2 **Materials and Equipment**

5.2.1 N/A

6. RESPONSIBILITIES:

6.1 It is the responsibility of IPCD to implement this policy

7. APPENDICES:

7.1 N/A

8. REFERENCES:

8.1 GCC Infection Prevention and Control Manual. 3rd Edition, 2018

9. APPROVALS:

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