

## Purposes:

1. Prevent contamination of the healthcare bag.
2. Protect patients, family members, and healthcare workers from the spread of infection.
3. Demonstrate compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations, accreditation standards, infection control principles, and standard precautions.

## Supplies:

### To include in the healthcare bag for every visit:

- Alcohol wipes\* (Hopkins Medical Products #723001)
  - Adhesive remover pads\* (Hopkins Medical Products #726400)
  - Adhesive bandages\* (Hopkins Medical Products #611090)
  - Non-sterile 4x4s (Hopkins Medical Products #612634)
  - Tape, 1" paper\* (Hopkins Medical Products #615351)
  - Antiseptic towelettes\* (Hopkins Medical Products #693440)
  - Blood pressure cuff\* (Hopkins Medical Products #520860)
  - Red bags for disposables\* (Hopkins Medical Products #695352)
  - Hard surface disinfectant\* (Hopkins Medical Products #694800)
  - Spill cleanup kit\* (Hopkins Medical Products #698547)
  - Penlight\* (Hopkins Medical Products #570081)
  - Personal protection kit (PPE)\* (Hopkins Medical Products #690606)
  - Gloves (nonsterile)\* (Hopkins Medical Products #572392)
  - Bag barrier, disposable\* (Hopkins Medical Products #690847)
  - Liquid soap\* (Hopkins Medical Products #690344)
  - Waterless hand cleanser\* (Hopkins Medical Products #691735)
  - Paper towels\* (Hopkins Medical Products #572065)
  - Sharps unit (Hopkins Medical Products #668900)
  - Stethoscope\* (Hopkins Medical Products #510109)
  - Thermometer\* (Hopkins Medical Products #570410)
  - Water-soluble lubricant, sterile\* (Hopkins Medical Products #728344)
  - Oral barrier device for CPR\* (Hopkins Medical Products #550455)
- Anything else your agency requires.

### To include as patient care situations dictate or for on-call/emergency bag:

- Betadine (bottle) (Hopkins Medical Products #722226)
  - Betadine (wipes)\* (Hopkins Medical Products #723201)
  - Disposable catheter sets (two sizes)
  - Sterile cotton swabs\* (Hopkins Medical Products #570806)
  - Drainage bags
  - Enemas
  - Foley catheters
  - Gauze pads, sterile (4x4s)\* (Hopkins Medical Products #613303)
  - Glove s-medium, sterile pairs\* (Hopkins Medical Products #573382)
  - Hydrogen peroxide
  - Intersorb
  - Toenail clipper (Hopkins Medical Products #587369)
  - Kling, 3" sterile\* (Hopkins Medical Products #614153)
  - Leg bag and tubing
  - Normal saline (Hopkins Medical Products #721177)
  - Irrigation syringes
  - Skin prep wipes\* (Hopkins Medical Products #724204)
  - Syringes
  - Needles
  - Butterfly needles
  - Tape, 1" adhesive\* (Hopkins Medical Products #610210)
  - Tape measure, disposable\* (Hopkins Medical Products #570074)
  - Waterproof pads
  - Venipuncture equipment
  - Bottled water
- Anything else your agency requires.
- A starter kit is available** (Hopkins Medical Products #712810)

\*These items are included in the Hopkin's Starter Kit

## Procedure:

1. Select a healthcare bag that has at least three separate compartments, one of which should be lockable to secure patient records.
2. Designate two “clean” compartments, one for clean disposables and the other for patient records.
3. Pack the bag with necessary supplies before leaving for visits. Pack hand washing supplies near the top or in a side pocket where they are easily accessible.
4. Store the healthcare bag in a clean cardboard box or other separate compartment of the car.
5. Do not take the healthcare bag into “infested homes” or homes of patients with MRSA or VRE.
6. In the home, identify a clean and safe area for the healthcare bag.
  - a. Choose a place to set the bag that gives you enough work space, is close to the patient, has a source of water, and is away from pets and children.
  - b. Never set the healthcare bag on the floor.
7. Spread an impervious barrier on the surface before setting the bag down.
8. Plan where you will discard disposable items and sharps ahead of time.
9. Remove hand washing supplies first.
10. Wash and dry hands thoroughly, following proper technique.
11. Remove any items needed for patient care, including any personal protective equipment necessary.
12. Close the bag before performing patient care.
13. Wash your hands again if you need to re-enter the bag for additional supplies during patient care.
14. Sharps disposal: Use only an approved sharps disposal container; it must be kept in a separate “dirty” compartment. Never put used sharps directly in the bag.
15. Discard disposables in a sealed trash bag in the family trash receptacle. Follow local and state regulations for infectious waste disposal.
16. Bag soiled reusable items that cannot be cleaned in the patient’s home and transport according to agency policy. Do not put back into the healthcare bag.
17. Wash your hands, then repack and close the healthcare bag.
18. Clean and disinfect the healthcare bag weekly.
  - a. Hand wash in mild soap and warm water; air dry.
  - b. Spray inside and outside with Sanizide Plus; air dry.

