



RCNIC MANUAL

NUMBER: **III-2.19**

PAGE: **1 of 1**

DATE OF ORIGINAL: **6/05**

DATE OF REVIEW: **6/05**

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SUBJECT: PICU/CICU/RCNIC MOUTH CARE POLICY

APPROVAL

POLICY: All patients in the PICU/CICU/RCNIC will receive mouth care.

PROCEDURE:

- I. All intubated patients will be given mouth care every 4 hours unless otherwise ordered by MD.
 - a. The oropharynx will be suctioned prior to mouth care and immediately after mouth care.**
 - b. Patients will be positioned appropriately so that there is no danger of aspiration of oral secretions or solutions used for mouth care.**
 - c. Mouthwash should be used for patients with teeth. The mouth, teeth, gums, and tongue should be scrubbed with a soft tooth brush.**
 - d. Intubated infants with no teeth will have their gums and mouth swabbed with a toothette and sterile water.****

- II. All non-intubated alert patients with teeth will brush their teeth with a soft tooth brush once on day shift and once on evening shift if able or will have their teeth brushed for them. They may use toothpaste or mouthwash.**

- III. All non-intubated patients who are NPO will receive mouth care with sterile water and soft toothette every four hours.**

- IV. Patients undergoing a bone marrow transplant will receive the same care unless the patient is on specific mouth care protocol.**