

MANAGEMENT OF RESIDENT PERSONAL CLOTHING IN THE EXTENDED CARE ENVIRONMENT

The management of personal clothing in the extended care environment necessitates a three tiered approach to ensure the product is processed correctly and returned to the appropriate resident.

INITIAL SET-UP PROCEDURE

- Determine the number of delivery areas, ie, floors, wings, stations, etc
- Identify the number of residents in each area
- Divide areas into groups averaging 30 residents per group
- Assign a colored net bag for each group
- Name each delivery area, ie, East Wing, South Wing, etc
- Label each garment with facility name, resident name, and delivery area
- Purchase a colored net bag for each area
- Label soil hampers accordingly per area and designate one hamper for personal linen only
- Purchase delivery carts for personal clothing for each area

PERSONAL CLOTHING PROCESSING PROCEDURE

- Place soiled personal clothing in colored net bags at point of use
- Collect soil from floors each day
- Separate net bags by color
- Separate each color bag by darks and whites and place back into the same colored net bag washing whites with whites, darks with darks
- Fill colored net bags to 65% - 75% of capacity to allow for mechanical action of washer
- Unload and sort net bags into same color category
- Stage by delivery area for drying, return clothing to appropriate colored bag
- Dry and fold, then place into the designated personal delivery cart for delivery

SOCK PROCEDURE

- If possible, pin socks together in pairs before placing into the soil hampers
- Leave safety pin on throughout the entire process up until folding
- If pins are not available, sort socks after drying into a slotted wood sorter by the resident's last name, then pair.



**Acknowledgment: Information courtesy of Dan Ullsperger, General Manager,
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Lit. No. TI60103