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\* ADDENDUM \*  
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**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER**

Division of Nursing

Index: 8620.000  
Addendum: #16  
Issue Date: March 1, 1990  
Review Date: February 2012

**DRESS CODE/GROOMING**

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**PURPOSE:**

To further define the hospital's appearance policy (AD 49) set forth for the Nursing Department appearance requirements. Since the entire hospital staff influences patients by reflecting the principles and standards of the hospital, it is essential that nursing personnel lend dignity to the profession and inspire confidence in patients by always presenting a professional appearance. Therefore, the following rules shall be adopted by all the nursing staff:

**A. UNIFORMS**

1. RN/LPN staff may wear navy blue scrubs or white uniforms (white scrub style is permitted). This includes head coverings, blouses, shirts/tops, jackets, sweaters, vests, turtlenecks (including those worn as layers), slacks, skirts, culottes, and dresses. White or navy blue attire is required for Medical Surgical units, Critical Care/PCU units, Same Day Surgery, Outpatient areas (Wound Healing Center, Radiology, Cancer Center) and Administrative Coordinators.
2. Emergency Department RN's will wear only navy blue scrubs. Clean white lab coats, turtlenecks and tops worn for layering are acceptable.
3. OB, Vascular/Cardiac Cath Lab, PACU, OR, Minor Procedures staffs are required to wear scrubs/warm-up jackets supplied by the hospital for infection control and safety purposes. Layers (such as turtlenecks) worn with scrubs must be white. The OB eggplant color is worn only in OB as a security measure (as one way for patients to distinguish the OB unit staff from other departments in the hospital). See Administrative Policy AD 49 for proper disposition guidelines.
3. The length of a dress, skirt or culottes will be no shorter than two inches above the knee.
4. White socks or white stockings must be worn in all nursing departments. Full length hosiery will be worn with dresses, skirts, and culottes.
5. Clean, white, sturdy shoes will be worn in all Nursing areas. "Noisy" shoes are not permitted. Crocs (without holes in tops) are permitted. Clogs (if no noisy heel) are permitted. Supportive, white sneaker type shoes are permitted.
6. All garments must be made of opaque fabric. A shadow-proof white slip is to be worn under a dress or skirt uniform.
7. Clean, white underwear must be worn under white uniforms. Thong or lacey underwear is not permitted. Undergarments must not be visible under the uniform.
8. Nursing Assistants are required to wear royal blue scrub tops, slacks, skirt, or culottes.
9. Unit Secretarial personnel are required to wear tan slacks, skirt or culottes.

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10. Jeans, sweat pants, pedal pushers, capris, or tight pants are not acceptable.
11. Colored tops, blouses, or T-shirts are not acceptable (except as specified above).
12. RN badges and hospital identification badges must be worn at all times as specified in the hospital's appearance policy.

B. JEWELRY

1. Wedding rings and/or engagement rings are acceptable.
2. Earrings must not exceed one inch in length or width.
3. Body piercing jewelry (other than earrings) should not be visible. Pierced nose rings or studs, pierced tongue jewelry, pierced eyebrow jewelry, or any other visible piercings are not acceptable.
4. Simple chains may be worn inside of uniform.

C. GENERAL GROOMING

1. Refer to Administrative Policy AD 49 for Grooming Standards. This includes the nail policy.
2. Unit-specific policies may reflect stricter policies for attire and jewelry.