UPMC | ALTOONA

Stethoscoop

UPMC Altoona's Student Nurse Newsletter





The **SCOOP** on units: **Operating Room**

This department of the hospital consists of 12 operating rooms (OR) and one dedicated cysto room for urology procedures. It averages 750 cases per month. The hospital being a Level III trauma center, the OR is staffed 24/7.

Surgical care is provided for the following service lines: general surgery, orthopaedics, neurosurgery, plastic and reconstructive, gynecology, ENT, vascular, cardiac,

podiatry, urology, oral and maxillofacial, trauma, and robotics.

"We welcome nursing students for internships as well as shadowing experiences. We hire graduate nurses with an orientation period of six months—the longest of any nursing orientation. RNs orienting to the OR receive education in

circulating, scrubbing, and assisting the surgeon,
per the Association of Operating Room Nurses
recommendations." — Dee Dee Murray, Unit Director

Student Nurse Week Scholarship

As part of our Student Nurse Week celebration, UPMC Altoona Foundation awarded a \$500 scholarship to **Mayah Marasco**.

Mayah is enrolled in the BSN program at Penn State Altoona and is scheduled to graduate in May 2026. While attending school, she is employed as a patient care technician at UPMC Altoona.

All students were invited to apply and submit a letter of recommendation from a nursing instructor. The recommendation from her instructor described Mayah as respectful, dependable, dedicated, and genuinely kind.

In addition to working at UPMC Altoona, Mayah also works for her family business. She is involved in the Student Nurses Association of PA and remains active in community service projects and campus events.

Congratulations Mayah! Keep up the good work!



Pictured are
(left to right)
Tim Balconi, president,
UPMC Altoona
Foundation;
Mayah Marasco,
student, Penn State
Altoona, PCT, MPCU,
and Kitty Zelnosky,
CNO, VP of Patient
Care Services, West
Central Region.



Medical Device Supply Collection

UPMC has selected Medline ReNewal to manage reprocessing efforts across all facilities.

Note the recent change in the process of collecting medical devices for repurposing, including:

- Pulse oximetry
- SCDs
- Tourniquets
- Air transfer mattress

Many inpatient units have these devices. Please place devices no longer in use in the bins, NOT in the trash.

Employment Opportunities



STUDENT NURSE INTERNSHIPS UPMC Altoona Student Nurse Internship



NURSING STUDENTS https://careers.upmc.com/nursing



GRADUATE NURSES
UPMC Altoona GN Opportunities

Blood Administration Process Update



Labs

A type and screen within 72 hours is required



Consent

Consent is valid for 90 days



Documentation Requirements

Baseline blood pressure, heart rate, temperature, respirations



Documentation Frequency

- Within 30 minutes prior to infusion start
- 15 to 30 minutes after start
- Within 30 minutes after infusion completion

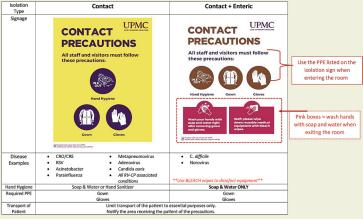


Document patient education on signs and symptoms of blood transfusion reaction



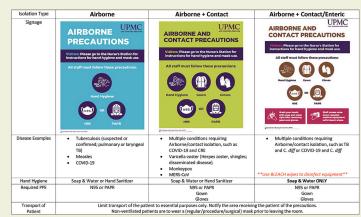
Isolation Precautions Guidelines

Contact-Based Precautions

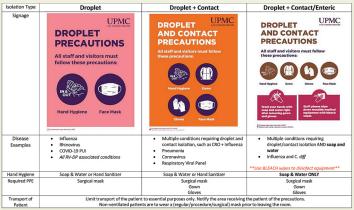


Airborne-Based Precautions

Required monitor negative air pressure room - keep door closed



Droplet-Based Precautions



Call Infection Prevention at 814-889-2197 with any questions or concerns. Notify Infection Prevention if a patient's banner bar code = "Emerging Pathogen, contact IP."

Please reference the Infonet policy: HS-IC0609, "Transmission-Based Isolation and Standard Precautions Policy" for condition-specific isolation guidance.