

ALGORITHM ON THE PREVENTION OF ENTANGLEMENT AND ENTRAPMENT RELATED TO MEDICAL AND NON MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

This algorithm relates to medical devices, which could tangle or wrap around the infant/child or equipment during nursing care and during patient or moving infants and children

Care must be taken with tubing and monitoring leads with all infants and children in OLC HC but specifically the following:

- Before carrying out nursing care
- Any infant or child, who is moved for any reason with tubes, monitoring leads, lines or drains in situ.
- Infants and children with pre-existing conditions, using any medical or non-medical devices, which have cords, straps tubing or lines.
- Very restless or active / combative or agitated infants or children.
- Developmental / cognitively impaired infants or children.
- Altered level of consciousness in infants or children.
- Weakened or unsteady gait in infants or children.

Suggested items to consider:

- Nasogastric tubes, enteral extension sets and all enteral feeding tubes and systems.
- Urinary catheters.
- Oxygen tubing, Airvo tubing, CPAP / BIPAP or any other ventilations assistance devices.
- Drains from wounds.
- Non-medical devices that have any length which could tangle.
- Any other monitoring that has leads or tube lengths attached.

Suggested actions to prevent entanglement / entrapment by medical or non-medical equipment:

- Complete visual assessment of the infant or child.
- Disconnect all tubing and monitoring leads prior to moving, if appropriate and roll them up securely.
- If disconnection is not possible, tie up the lines and monitoring leads prior to moving (*see picture below*)
- For drains, ensure another staff member can assist you, if required and manage the drain to ensure the drain is not inadvertently removed or dislodged.
- Altered level of consciousness in infants or children.
- Weakened or unsteady gait in infants or children.

