SFHEUSC42
Implant medical devices

Overview

This standard relates to the surgical implantation of passive and/or active medical devices such as pacemakers, orthopaedic implants, artificial valves, muscle stimulators, cochlear implants and ocular lenses. These devices are implanted to aid and improve the long-term health and physiological condition of the individual. Other materials such as cannulaes, staples and plates that may be implanted on a more temporary basis to support the individual during an intervention or facilitate healing are covered in other standards.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 confirm the individuals' identity and ensure that they have given their informed consent for the intervention to be delivered
- P2 apply standard precautions for infection control and other relevant health and safety measures, and wear personal protective clothing and additional protective equipment as appropriate
- P3 ensure that the relevant approved medical device is available, sterile and readily accessible
- P4 ensure that the appropriate pharmaceutical intervention of the required dilution and dose is given and maintained, in accordance with national and local legislation, protocols, policies and guidelines
- P5 ensure that the individual is positioned appropriately for the intervention, in a way that optimises their comfort, in line with relevant protocols and guidelines
- P6 gain access to the intervention site in a timely, safe and appropriate manner for the medical device being implanted
- P7 determine the appropriate choice and sequencing of actions to take to successfully complete the intervention, taking into account:
  - P7.1 the medical device being implanted
  - P7.2 the complexity of the intervention
  - P7.3 the potential for healing
  - P7.4 other injuries
  - P7.5 age and activity level of the individual
- P8 ensure that appropriate debridement and aspiration is undertaken to maximise visibility around the intervention site, in preparation for the implantation of the medical device
- P9 ensure that the viability of organs and tissues exposed as a result of the intervention is maintained, in line with good medical practice
- P10 position and attach the medical device selecting the appropriate method and in a manner that:
  - P10.1 will minimise any post intervention discomfort, pain and trauma to the individual
  - P10.2 minimises damage and disruption to surrounding organs and tissues
  - P10.3 recognises the potential for complications and minimises the possibility of these occurring
- P11 complete the intervention to the point where the site can be safely prepared for closure ensuring that:
  - P11.1 connections between organs and/or tissues in and/or surrounding the site are appropriately restored or connected
  - P11.2 the site is correctly prepared for closure in line with good medical practice, and local protocols, in a way that will minimise any post

intervention discomfort, pain and trauma to the individual

P11.3 sterile post intervention materials can be correctly applied and attached

P12 respect the privacy, dignity and confidentiality of the individual throughout your interaction with them

P13 record the type, batch number, recommended implant period and useful life of any medical devices implanted in an appropriate format for future reference

P14 maintain timely, accurate, complete and legible records in accordance with local policies and procedures and work at all times within appropriate patient and information confidentiality guidelines and protocols

P15 work within your scope of responsibility and accountability, referring to others where appropriate and/or necessary

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

K1 the current European and national legislation, national guidelines and local policies and protocols which affect your work practice

K2 your responsibilities under the current European and national legislation, national guidelines and local policies and protocols on your actions within the EUSC environment

K3 why it is necessary to obtain informed consent prior to working with an individual and the methods used to achieve this where the individual is not able to give their consent directly (e.g. because they are comatose or have communication differences)

K4 the policies and guidance which clarify your scope of practice and the relationship between yourself and other members of staff in terms of delegation and supervision

K5 policies and guidance relating to the moving and positioning of individuals and the impact they have upon your work

K6 why it is important to get positive confirmation of the individual's identity before starting the preparation and effective methods of obtaining positive identification

K7 the principles of asepsis, the maintenance of the sterile field and the potential consequence of poor practice

K8 the importance of following standard precautions relevant to the intervention to be undertaken and the protective clothing which may be worn for the individual's and your protection

K9 the potential consequences of poor practice in relation to the application of standard precautions

K10 your role and the importance of working within your own scope of practice

K11 the roles and responsibilities of other team members

K12 the importance of keeping the individual informed about what you are doing and the nature of the activity which is about to take place

K13 the importance of considering the individual's level of understanding in answering questions about the EUSC intervention

K14 the different methods of communication you may have to use in relation to individuals with communication difficulties or differences

K15 the importance of checking that the individual has complied with any prescribed pre-treatment instructions and possible implications if instructions are not followed

K16 the procedures, protocols and processes, relating to the selection and use of medical devices

K17 the methods, procedures and techniques for making incisions and dissections, wound closure, wound management

K18 the appropriate methods, procedures and techniques for the type of

implantation being undertaken

K19 the processes you would go through in establishing the appropriate course of action for the intervention to be undertaken

K20 fundamental principles for positioning an individual for an intervention in relation to the particular needs of the recipient of the intervention which take account of the requirements for:

- K20.1 surgical access
- K20.2 anaesthesia access
- K20.3 invasive line access
- K20.4 ventilation
- K20.5 body alignment
- K20.6 circulation
- K20.7 neurological considerations
- K20.8 skin integrity
- K20.9 adequate protective devices
- K20.10 general safety considerations

K21 the principles of local, general and regional anaesthesia in relation to the implantation of medical devices

K22 the resources necessary for the type of implantation being undertaken and how to use them

K23 applied anatomy, general and system specific physiology and pathology and its application to the particular type of implantation being undertaken, in line with current guidance in your field of practice

K24 the function of the device to be implanted, the risks and implications of rejection and how to minimise or counter these risks

K25 the types of complications that might arise during the implantation of medical devices responses that might be made to deal with them

K26 how to practise in such a way as to minimise complications or risk to individuals

K27 the importance of recording information clearly, accurately and in a systematic manner

K28 the types of information that must be recorded in relation to different activities

K29 the importance of recording information as soon after the event as possible

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Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB7 Interventions and treatments

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