El Paso - *Ambulatory Clinic Policy and Procedure*

Title: **LATEX ALLERGY PROTOCOL, KNOWN OR SUSPECTED**	Policy Number: **EP 3.17**
Regulation Reference: CDC, NIOSH	Effective Date: **11/2013**

Policy Statement:

It shall be the policy of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso (TTUHSC at El Paso) Ambulatory Clinics to establish a safe and effective protocol for patients with known or suspected Latex allergies.

Scope and Distribution:

This policy applies and will be distributed to all TTUHSC at El Paso clinics.

Procedure:

1. Patient Care
   a. When possible, latex allergy precautions will be used with all patient populations diagnosed with Myelodysplasia and Neurogenic bladder dysfunction and/or suspected Latex hypersensitivity.
   b. All Healthcare personnel who have contact with these patients should wear non-latex gloves.
   c. High-risk patients should be scheduled as the first appointment of the day (to minimize exposure to airborne latex particular matter).
   d. A latex allergy cart may be set up to contain the following latex-free items:
      1) Gloves – sterile and non-sterile (in an assortment of sizes)
      2) Tape – silk and transparent
      3) Webril and Stockinett – for use under blood pressure cuffs, to wrap blood pressure cuffs and stethoscope tubing, etc.

2. **List of Latex and Latex Free Products.** A listing of products that contain Latex and products that are Latex free in the healthcare environment can be found at:
   http://www.spinabifidaassociation.org/atf/cf/%7BEED435C8-F1A0-4A16-B4D8-A713BBCD9CE4%7D/LatexList09.pdf

   *Note: This list is NOT all-inclusive. It is very difficult to obtain full and accurate information on the latex content of products. Amounts vary between companies and product series. (Meeropol, Leger, & Frost, 1993).

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