

Tests, treatments and procedures at risk of inappropriateness in Italy

Five Green Recommendations from the National Association of Nurses for the Prevention of Hospital Infections– ANIPIO

1	<p>Do not use double pair of non-sterile gloves in patient care.</p> <p>There is no scientific evidence that wearing double gloves reduces the risk of infections. Conversely, the appropriate use of gloves reduces the environmental impact and encourages health and social workers to adhere to evidence-based good practices. This recommendation allows reducing the improper use of plastic material and the volume of waste and applies in all areas of care: hospital, geriatric residential facilities (RSA), patient's home, clinics, etc.</p>
2	<p>Do not use disposable adhesive surgical sheets with the intent of reducing surgical site infections (Surgical Site Infections - SSI)</p> <p>There is no scientific evidence that disposable adhesive surgical sheets are effective in reducing infection rates at the surgical site. Not using them allows reducing the improper use of plastic material and the total volume of waste.</p>
3	<p>For the management of vascular access, in particular for washing and closing operations (Flushing and locking) don't use syringes with direct filling from the IV fluid solution bottle, but prefer the use of pre-filled syringes</p> <p>IV solution pre-filled syringes in vascular access management offer several advantages over syringes filled directly from an IV fluid solution bottle. First, they decrease the risk of catheter-related infections, simplifying the procedure and reducing time at the bedside. They also facilitate the management of vascular access, avoiding complications such as occlusion, thrombosis or infection. Finally, they reduce the use of disposable plastic and the volume of waste. The recommendation applies to all types of vascular access, both central and peripheral.</p>
4	<p>Do not consider only surgical clinics, operating rooms and interventional x-ray as the only option for the implantation of peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC) and peripheral venous catheters (Midline) but, preferably, to favour the implant procedure at the patient's bedside.</p> <p>Provided that the asepsis procedures are followed and strategies to minimize the infectious risk are applied, the implantation at the patient's bedside it guarantees the same level of quality and safety, with a considerable saving of water, detergents, disinfectants and energy needed for the sanitization of surgical clinics, operating rooms and interventional radiologists settings. The environmental impact of transporting the patient in an ambulance is also avoided.</p>
5	<p>For patients in isolation rooms, do not place isolation supplies, equipment and medical devices of no immediate use at the bedside</p> <p>To reduce the environmental impact of waste is recommended to use a checklist of the supplies and equipment placed on the isolation room by the patient's bedside. Unused supply, in fact, is at risk of contamination and can be a source of infection for healthcare personnel. In addition, unused medical equipment and devices must be disposed or, if possible, sanitized to make them suitable for reuse. However, this involves the use of energy, water, detergents and disinfectants as well as generating unnecessary waste.</p>

Please note that these items are provided only for information and are not intended as a substitute for consultation with a clinician. Patients with any specific questions about the items on this list or their individual situation should consult their clinician.

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How this list was created

ANIPIO (Scientific Society of Nurses Specialists in Infectious Risk), is addressed to all health professionals, patients, and health organizations. ANIPIO's "Focus" is care-related infection control (ICA) in all treatment settings. Infections are a real problem for the health of citizens, as well as, the issue of environmental protection, which concerns us all.

According to ANIPIO, the 5 practices at risk of inappropriateness look not only at practices with regard to the issue of infectious risk, but also at the protection of our environment. The 5 practices are raised from a careful analysis shared with all members of the Scientific Society, supported by EB, literature review, and comparison with national and international studies. The methodological approach was cared by the ANIPIO GREEN practices working group. Betting as soon as possible on an effective accountability of organizations, professionals and patients, with regard to issues such as the environment and people's health is crucial for all of us. As a Scientific Society, we have the duty of anticipating future actions and promoting cultural change through awareness-raising campaigns.

Sources

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Slow Medicine ETS, an Italian Third Sector organization of health professionals, patients and citizens promoting a Measured, Respectful and Equitable Medicine, launched the campaign "**Doing more does not mean doing better- Choosing Wisely Italy**" in Italy at the end of 2012, similar to Choosing Wisely in the USA. The campaign aims to help physicians, other health professionals, patients and citizens engage in conversations about tests, treatments and procedures at risk of inappropriateness in Italy, for informed and shared choices. The campaign is part of the Choosing Wisely International movement. Partners of the campaign are the National Federation of Medical Doctors' and Dentists' Orders (FNOMCeO), that of Registered Nurses' Orders (FNOPI), the Academy of Nursing Sciences (ASI), National Union of Radiologists (SNR), Tuscany regional health agency, PartecipaSalute, Altroconsumo, the Federation for Social Services and Healthcare of Aut. Prov. of Bolzano, Zadig.

www.choosingwiselyitaly.org; www.slowmedicine.it

ANIPIO is the National Association of Nurses for the Prevention of Hospital Infections, founded on 27 September 1991 in Bologna, expressing the will of a group of nurses to pool their energies and knowledge to combat hospital infections.

ANIPIO's mission is:

- Promote professional qualifications and training with regard to risks of infection.
- Carry out studies and research on healthcare-associated infections.
- Disseminate new knowledge about infection control.
- Be a point of reference for risks of infection for professionals, the public and public and private healthcare providers.

For more information: www.anipio.it