


**NURSING POLICY, PROCEDURE, PROTOCOL MANUAL  
NSG-4-B191  
GUIDELINES FOR NURSING LAB COATS**

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APPROVED BY:	 (Senior VP Professional Practice, and Chief Nursing Executive)	

**POLICY STATEMENT:**

The professional designation of all nurses working at The Ottawa Hospital (TOH) must be clearly identified by patients, visitors, and other members of the staff at all times. As per one of the priorities of the Corporate Nursing Clinical Practice Committee (CNCPC), lab coats with the appropriate designation are provided to enhance professional image.

**PROTOCOL:**

1. As part of the dress code policy all RNs, RPNs, APNs, Clinical Managers, Nurse Educators, Clinical Administrators on Site will be provided with one white lab coat with The Ottawa Hospital (TOH) logo on the upper right side and a unilingual nursing professional designation as appropriate (RN, IA, RPN, IAA) on the upper left side above a pocket. A lab coat can be obtained by contacting the Nursing Professional Practice Department.
2. Upon any new hire, new staff will be issued one lab coat from the hospital. Any new, additional, or replacement for a lost or damaged lab coat can be purchased by contacting the vendor, (Please contact NPPD for Information).
3. Lab coats should be worn by RNs, RPNs, APNs, Clinical Managers, Nurse Educators, Clinical Administrators on Site when off the unit, and where appropriate, on the unit. Only a TOH issued lab coat will be in compliance with the policy.
4. Lab coats are to be maintained by the nursing staff. They must be laundered regularly.
5. A hospital identification tag must be worn to conform to the dress code policy and be visible when wearing the lab coat.

**RELATED POLICIES:**

Dress Code (ADM X 310)

Personal Protective Garment (ADM IV 200)

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