

**Glendale Adventist
Medical Center**



Memorandum

To: All Physicians at GAMC
From: Loucine Kasparian, MT (AMT), MBA, CIC
Infection Control Coordinator
Michele Cosgrove, M.D.
Chairperson Infection Control Committee
Date: 10/7/2008
Subject: Stethoscope Use Update

Due to an increase in the number of hospital-acquired infections in the SICU with multi-drug resistant *Acinetobacter Baumannii*, the Infection Control Department recently implemented the use of patient dedicated stethoscopes in the SICU. The previously clustered patients are now in different areas of the hospital. Continuous precautions are required of every health care provider to prevent spread of infection.

To continue control efforts, the Infection Control Department is requiring every Physician, Physician Assistant, and Nurse Practitioner to sheath their stethoscopes with a glove cover during patient exams, discarding the glove after the exam is complete. Covering the stethoscope with a glove will work as a barrier to transmission of organisms from one patient's skin to another patient's skin. Preventing colonization is the main goal and the first step in preventing hospital acquired infections. This is effective immediately.

Please call the Infection Control Department (818 409-8204) if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for your commitment and participation in the effort to reduce hospital acquired infections.

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