

Draping of image intensifier

Two different techniques



Critical points

1. The image intensifier (II) is not well-draped. There are uncovered areas and/or loose drapes.

Action:

- Make sure that surfaces are well-covered and drapes well-fixed.

Note

...

Compromised sterility
is reported
immediately to the
surgeon

2. The sterility is compromised.

Action:

- Nonsterile team members keep their distance.
- Only people who need to be in the room are present.
- The scrub nurse always keeps an eye on the C-arm, in particular when in use.

3. The II and C-arm are at the wrong position or movements of the C-arm are restricted.

Action:

- Position the II correctly and ensure good movements of the C-arm before it gets draped.

Procedure

These are suggested procedures. Please follow the guidelines and instructions of your hospital. Regular training of the team members leads to an improved outcome.

Note

...

Draping the C-arm in horizontal position is an alternative which allows the scrub nurse to keep the hands in the safe breast-waist zone.

Technique 1: Draping with a clip on drape

1. Prepare material:
 - Set of drapes for II (check set for completeness)
 - Second pair of gloves for person who will drape (ORP)
 - Plastic bag for foot pedal (to protect it from dirt and blood), if required
2. Scrub nurse and runner (circulator) drape the II together.
3. Cover the C-arm with the clip-on cover (The vertical way is the standard technique. The horizontal way is a suggested alternative.).
4. Cover the II with the sterile bag.
5. Cover the x-ray tube (source) with the specially provided sterile bag. The runner holds the C-arm to allow draping and to avoid contamination of the source.
6. Cover the pedal.
7. Turn the II in a vertical position. Pay attention to the sterility when changing the position.

Technique 2: Draping with a 1-part C-arm drape

1. Prepare material:
 - Drape for II
 - Second pair of gloves for person who will drape (ORP)
 - Plastic bag for foot pedal (to protect it from dirt and blood), if required
2. Scrub nurse and runner (circulator) drape the II together.
3. Cover the C-arm with the drape starting by following the procedure indicated on the drape (The vertical way is the standard technique. The horizontal way is a suggested alternative.).
 - a. Cover one side first (the II or the source).
 - b. Unfold the drape.
 - c. Cover the other side (the II or the source).
 - d. Finally, cover the C-arm.

It is important that all instructions indicated on the drape are carefully followed.
4. Cover the pedal.
5. Turn the II into vertical position. Pay attention to preserving the sterility when changing the position.

Reference(s)

- **AfPP.** *Standards and recommendations for safe perioperative practice.* 3rd ed. Harrogate: Association for Perioperative Practice (AfPP); 2011.
- **AORN.** *Perioperative standards and recommended practices.* 2010 Edition. Denver: AORN Inc; 2010. Instructions of different manufacturers were used in order to create these guidelines.