

Nursing Bag Technique - Procedure:

1. Designate two “clean” compartments, one for clean disposables and the other for patient records.
2. Pack the bag with necessary supplies before leaving for visits.
3. Pack hand washing supplies near the top or in a side pocket where they are easily accessible.
4. Store the healthcare bag in a clean cardboard box or other separate compartment of the car.
5. Do not take the healthcare bag into “infested homes” or homes of patients with MRSA or VRE.
6. In the home, identify a clean and safe area for the healthcare bag.
 - a. Choose a place to set the bag that gives you enough work space, is close to the patient, has a source of water, and is away from pets and children.
 - b. Never set the bag on the floor.
7. Spread a clean impervious barrier on the surface before setting the bag down.
8. Plan where you will discard disposable items and sharps ahead of time.
9. Remove hand washing supplies first.
10. Wash and dry hands thoroughly, following proper technique.
11. Remove any items needed for patient care, including any personal protective equipment necessary.
12. Close the bag before performing patient care.
13. Wash your hands again if you need to re-enter the bag for additional supplies during patient care.
14. Sharps disposal: Use only an approved sharps disposal container; it must be kept in a separate “dirty” compartment.
 - 1. Never put used sharps directly in the bag.**
15. Discard disposables in a sealed trash bag in the family trash receptacle.
Follow local and state regulations for infectious waste disposal.
16. Bag soiled reusable items that cannot be cleaned in the patient’s home and transport according to agency policy. **Do not put back into the healthcare bag.**
17. Wash your hands, then repack and close the healthcare bag.
18. Clean and disinfect the healthcare bag weekly.
 - b. Hand wash in mild soap and warm water; air dry.
 - c. Wipe inside with Sanizide Plus wipes and air dry.