



Healthcare Bag Technique Procedure

1. Select a healthcare bag that has at least three separate compartments, at least one of which should be lockable to secure patient records.
2. Designate two “clean” compartments, one for clean disposables and the other for patient records.
3. Pack the bag with necessary supplies before leaving for visits. 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 storage container or other separate compartment in your car.
5. Do not take the healthcare bag into infested homes or homes of patients with antibiotic-resistant infections such as MRSA or VRE.
6. In the home, identify a clean and safe area for the healthcare bag. **Never** set the healthcare bag on the floor. **Always** choose a place to set the bag that gives you enough workspace, is close to the patient, and is away from children and pets.
7. Plan where you will discard disposable items and sharps ahead of time.
8. **If there is not a clean hard surface to place your bag** - Spread an impervious barrier on the surface before setting the bag down.
9. Remove hand washing supplies first. Wash and dry hands thoroughly, following proper handwashing technique.
10. Remove any items needed for patient care, including any necessary personal protective equipment.
11. Close the bag before performing patient care.
12. Wash your hands again if you need to re-enter the bag for additional supplies during patient care.
13. Only dispose of sharps in an approved sharps disposal container. The sharps container must be kept in a separate “dirty” compartment or a designated sharps container pouch. **Never** put used sharps directly in the bag.
14. Discard disposables in a sealed trash bag or biohazard bag. Follow local and state regulations for infectious waste disposal.
15. Wash your hands, then repack and close the healthcare bag.