

Prosthetic Devices

Artificial Eye:

Encourage resident to remove, clean, and replace eye prosthesis if able

Otherwise, ask for supervisor for special instruction

Eyeglasses:

Lens made of glass or plastic

Stored in protective case to prevent damage when not in use

Held by frames

Washed under running water using mild detergent

-rinsed with clear water

-dried with tissue or soft cloth

Tops of ears and nose observed for redness or irritation from glasses

Wash hands before and after cleansing resident glasses

Contact Lenses (hard or soft):

Resident encouraged to care for lenses

Unusual observations to be reported:

-redness

-itching

-swelling

-complaints of pain, blurring or scratching sensations

Hearing Aid

Ear piece cleaned daily with damp cloth with soap and water; this is the only washable part. (Do not immerse.)

Ear piece and tubing should be soft

Wax cleaned from ear piece and tubing with special equipment

Batteries checked for power

Skin observed for redness or irritation

Ear wax build-up reported to supervisor

Removing hearing aid:

-turn volume to lowest level or off

-gently lift ear piece up and out of ear

- use tissues to wipe wax off ear piece
- store in safe place
- remove battery when not in use or open battery case

Inserting hearing aid:

- turn volume toward maximum until whistle is heard
 - replace batteries if whistle cannot be heard
 - turn volume to low setting
 - gently insert ear piece into ear canal and adjust for comfort
 - loop over ear for over-the-ear models
 - adjust volume to resident's satisfaction
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Braces

Uses

- support a weak part of the body
- prevent movement of joint
- correct deformities
- prevent deformities

Materials

- metal, leather, plastic

Bony parts under brace require protection in order to prevent skin irritation/breakdown

Report any wear/breakdown noticed and when brace parts are loose or missing

Shoes custom fitted and checked for

- broken shoe laces
 - heels and soles that are worn
 - leather that is worn or torn
 - damage from perspiration
 - odors-stains
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Devices for use with amputation:

Definition of amputation-partial or complete removal of a body part, usually arm or leg

below knee most common amputation

Examples:

- artificial leg
- artificial foot

- artificial arm

- artificial hand

Prosthesis fitted and made for each individual

Devices must be handled with care and stored in appropriate place when not in use

Assisting with artificial limbs:

- have right device

- check all parts for damage

- evaluate resident's limb for irritation and swelling

- pad area of prosthesis touching resident's

- clean according to individual instructions

- report any needed repairs to supervisor

- observe and report any skin changes to supervisor

Breast Forms

- Used following removal of breast

- Assist female residents with adjustments of forms when dressing

- Follow care suggested by manufacturer

- Keep form separate and in safe place when handling clothing for laundry