

Potential Risks of Wearing Jewellery:

1. Restriction of circulation on digits distal to rings.
2. Jewellery may be lost or damaged during removal in the Operating Room or transfer.
3. Alternate site burns from electrosurgical current.
4. Airway obstruction or aspiration of components of jewellery from the tongue, lips, or nose.
5. Pierced items will tear tissue during positioning after the patient is anesthetised.
6. Pierced items will cause pressure areas on patients during surgery depending on the surgical position.
7. There may be interference with urinary catheter insertion with genital piercing.
8. Inadequate cleaning of the area will have an increase in microbial counts related to jewellery, resulting in infections.

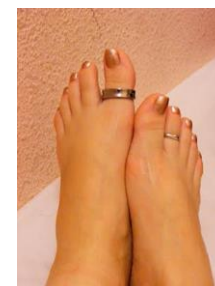
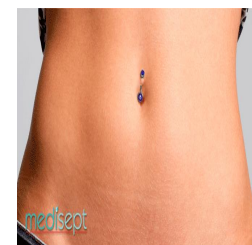
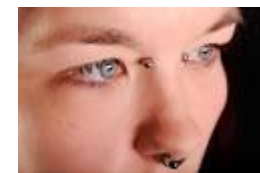


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Pre-operative Removal of Jewellery for Patients Scheduled for Surgery



Jewellery must be removed preoperatively and given to family or friend for safekeeping or placed with the patient's belongings. The Pembroke Regional Hospital is not responsible for storage, damage, loss, or theft of patient jewellery.



According to the new policy implemented at Pembroke Regional Hospital, patients must remove **ALL** jewellery, whether it is metal or plastic, before coming to the hospital for their procedure, including:

- Wedding rings
- Wedding bands
- Earrings, necklaces, and bracelets
- Facial piercings and studs (metal or plastic)
- Navel piercings and toe rings
- Other areas of skin (e.g. nipples and genitals)

The only exception would be patients who are scheduled for cataract surgery and wish to wear their rings.

In the event that the patient refuses to remove jewellery, after all explanations were given to them, including the potential risks, the patient's surgery will be cancelled.

Body piercings and rings can be removed by any piercing establishment or jeweler. They have the tools and equipment to do this safely without causing damage to your jewellery. We cannot guarantee with our efforts that we can do this as expertly.

