

## 5.5 Chest Drain Removal Flowchart

### Chest Drain Removal

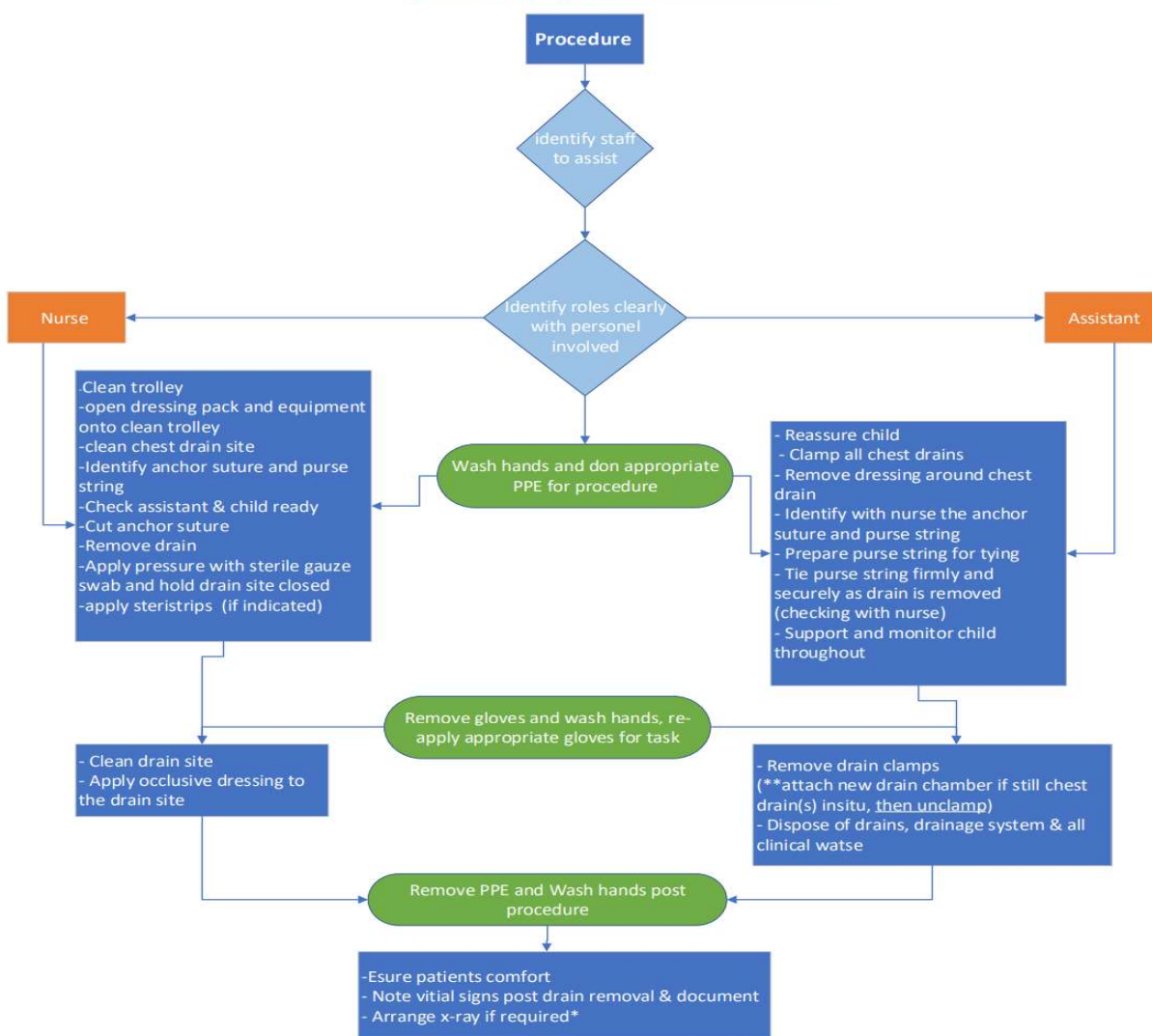
#### Equipment

- Clean trolley
- Gloves – sterile & non-sterile
- Disposable apron
- Disposable visor mask/goggles
- Sterile Dressing pack: inc. drape, gallipot, gauze.
- Chest drain site & wound site cleaning solution: 0.9% sodium chloride (Prontosan may also be used)
- Stitch cutter
- Steristrips
- Occlusive dressing for chest drain wound site: E.g Duoderm
- Chest drain clamps x2 (more if require)
- Clinical waste bag (x2) & large clinical waste bin
- \* dressing for mediastinal wound site and chest drain site if removing mediastinal drains post-cardiac surgery.

#### Consideration/pre-procedure

- Check drain(s) to be removed
- Carry out pre-removal check (E.g. anticoagulation)
- Explanation & reassurance
- Analgesia & sedation
- Monitor vital signs - baseline & throughout
- Ensure sufficient staff to assist with procedure
- Disconnect suction if attached

#### Procedure



#### If post-cardiac surgery:

- Identify pacing wires & secure (to prevent inadvertent removal of wires at this point)
- Check mediastinal wound site dressing
- If completely intact, leave as per protocol (i.e. re-dress Days 2, 5 & 7)

#### If removing chest drain(s) likely to disrupt integrity of the dressing, then:

- Strip mediastinal wound dressing, clean wound & redress mediastinal wound site with recommended dressing.
- Complete formal wound assessment & documentation