Massachusetts General Hospital
Department of Biomedical Engineering
Policies and Procedures
Dress Code

1. Policy

1.1. This department policy is supplemental to the hospital-wide Human Resources policy on dress code. Employees who interact face-to-face with customers or patients on a routine basis should represent the department in a professional manner and at a minimum be dressed in business casual attire, unless otherwise dictated by the environment (such as the OR). A more formal business attire is preferred, e.g. shirt and tie for males.

2. Definitions and Regulations

- 2.1. Business casual attire includes: shirts, sweaters, turtlenecks, khakis, and skirts and dresses of appropriate length.
- 2.2. Unacceptable attire includes: jeans, T-shirts, gym sneakers, shorts, and scrubs, unless required by the environment (e.g. scrubs are required in the OR but not ICUs or most procedure areas).
- 2.3. More casual attire is acceptable when performing work that is likely to soil clothing, e.g. installations, work with machine tools. Even in such circumstances, it is important to maintain the most professional dress possible given the constraints, e.g. protect business attire with a lab coat if practical.
- 2.4. Exceptions will be made based on extenuating circumstances and evaluated on a per case basis. Such circumstances might include a medical problem such that certain footwear or attire is necessary.
- 2.5. Employees who do not normally interact in person with customers, but who have occasion to represent the department, such as in an external meeting, will conform to the business casual attire at a minimum. It is customary for men to wear a shirt and tie at meetings with most customers.
- 2.6. Unacceptable appearance could subject an employee to corrective action.

Related Policies: Dress Code (MGH)

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