

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

Using a Thermometer to Measure Body Temperature

Document Number: 962C-SOP-047

Original Approval Date: Apr 29, 2020

Revision Number: 1

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Latest Revision Date: Apr 29, 2020

Next Revision Date: Apr 29, 2023

Document Approval Level: 4

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USING A THERMOMETER TO MEASURE BODY TEMPERATURE

Rev	Status	Rev. Date	Status Description	Prepared by	Reviewed by	Approved by
1	APP	Apr 29, 2020	Approved	T. Siver	G. Kuipers	D. Kallay 

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The following is a step by step procedure on how to complete a specific task or meet a facility specific requirement. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) are written for all identified critical tasks. By virtue of the hazard or complexity associated with critical tasks it is paramount that the SOP be followed as written. SOPs contain a listing of high-level hazards associated with the task, for detailed hazard analysis reference the applicable Task Hazard Assessments. SOPs do not replace the requirements contained in the company Standards, Codes, and Processes nor does it replace the need to comply with required legislation. Section 8.0 references documentation that the worker shall understand before work commences.

1.0 PURPOSE

- To establish a Company standard to safely and effectively carry out work as it applies to using a thermometer to measure body temperature.

2.0 SCOPE AND APPLICATION

- This document applies to all Company Heavy Construction Mining operations. Ensure all site-specific requirements are being met or exceeded before performing the task.

3.0 HAZARDS AND CONTROLS

- Using thermometer incorrectly.
 - Temperature Screener must review the operating instructions for the type of thermometer being used.
 - For a non-contact thermometer, ensure it is held no further than 5 cm from patient (optimal distance is 3-5 cm).
 - Keep the thermometer in a stable environment. When the ambient temperature changes greatly between the testing environment and where the thermometer was stored, allow the thermometer to remain in the new environment for (15) fifteen minutes before conducting a measurement.
 - Do not expose the thermometer to water, liquids or dust.
 - For a non-contact thermometer, make sure the screen is in temperature mode.
- Temperature Screener exposure to bio-aerosols leading to illness or disease.
 - Temperature Screener will wear task specific PPE including N95 Respirator or an alternative respirator with equal or greater protection, close fitting safety glasses and disposable nitrile, or equivalent, gloves.
- Cross contamination of patients between temperature screens.
 - Use a non-contact thermometer. If a contact thermometer must be used, an additional JSA must be developed.
 - Use disinfectant wipes to clean the thermometer between patients.
 - Patients will use hand sanitizer before entering the room and will avoid touching areas in the room (i.e. tables, chairs).
 - Temperature Screener will change gloves between patients.

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- Violating patient privacy.
 - Temperature screening must be conducted in a private area. A private area is one that is out of the earshot and line of sight of persons not involved in the test.
 - Patients will be verbally asked to consent to a temperature screen. If patient refuses to participate, the Temperature Screener will notify the patient's supervisor for follow up.
- Inaccurate temperature reading.
 - Do not measure body temperature immediately after measuring the temperature of an extremely high or low temperature object.
 - Do not measure body temperature if the patient has exercised within the last 30 minutes.
 - Patients must be acclimatized to the environment before having their temperature screened. Allow the patients to be in the environment at least 2 minutes if there is a significant ambient temperature difference between the screening room and where the patient was waiting.
 - A second temperature measurement will be required if the patient's temperature records greater than 38 degrees Celsius. Wait (3) three minutes before conducting the second measurement.

4.0 CHECKLIST

- Attend all preparatory meetings (IE: daily PSI; job scope; review of JSA's and SOP's for the job).
- Complete FLRA cards before starting the work.
- Ensure all personnel involved in the task are aware of the hazards and the controls to be used, as identified in the SOP's; JSA's; and FLRA's
- Conduct a pre-job inspection of all equipment to be worked on and tools to be used.
- Standard of Training required for working on this job: On-the job training.**

5.0 DEFINITIONS

5.1 Company

- North American Construction Group (NACG) divisions, departments, or subsidiaries.

6.0 PROCEDURE

- 1) Review the thermometer's operating instructions prior to using it. Ensure the thermometer's settings are set up accurately and that the thermometer is measuring in degrees Celsius.
- 2) Identify a testing location that maintains patient privacy. Place thermometer in location for (15) fifteen minutes prior to use if there is a significant ambient temperature change.
- 3) Temperature Screener will don PPE and use disinfectant cloths to wipe down the thermometer.
- 4) Turn on thermometer and ensure it is set to temperature mode.
- 5) Request patient to sanitize their hands then allow them to enter the room. Ask patient if they consent to a temperature screen. If patient replies with a negative answer, do not conduct the test. Proceed to inform supervisor for follow up.
- 6) Measure temperature. For a non-contact thermometer, point the thermometer at the middle of the forehead, approximately 3-5 cm away and press the measure button. Within 1-2 seconds the measured value will be

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displayed. If the measured value exceeds the temperature alarm point (defaulted to 38 degrees Celsius) a beeping alarm will sound.

- 7) Record temperature measurement. If temperature is below 38 degrees Celsius, release patient. If temperature is above 38 degrees Celsius, wait (3) three minutes and conduct a second test. Record second temperature measurement. If second temperature measurement is above 38 degrees Celsius, consult with supervisor for next steps.
- 8) Use disinfectant cloths to wipe down thermometer.
- 9) Change gloves and repeat steps 4-8 for next patient.

7.0 NOTES

If this task is to be done by a method different than described in this SOP, the work must **STOP** and the alternate method must be **DOCUMENTED** with an adequate hazard assessment tool such as a JSA. The document must be **APPROVED** by a supervisor before such procedures are implemented.

8.0 REFERENCES

Alberta Occupational Health and Safety Act, Regulation and Code – {Part 2 Hazard Assessment, Elimination and Control}
910C-P-014 {COVID-19 Pandemic Preparedness Plan}

9.0 APPENDICES

There are no appendices.