PURPOSE:
To promote cleanliness, prevent scalp and hair breakdown, stimulate circulation, distribute natural oils, and to improve appearance and well-being of patient.

CONSIDERATIONS:
1. Keep the patient free of drafts.
2. Never use a hot comb, curling iron or heated rollers on a patient's hair.
3. Never use chemicals, such as hair dyes or permanents on a patient's hair.
4. Maintain the patient's comfort throughout the shampoo.

EQUIPMENT:
- Comb or brush
- Shampoo
- Conditioner or rinse (optional)
- Towels and small washcloth
- Plastic sheet or other protective cover
- Newspaper or paper bags
- Container with warm water
- Basin or other receptacle
- Pitcher or pan
- Chair or small table
- Cotton balls (optional)
- Electric blow dryer (optional)
- Shampoo tray (optional)
- Apron and gloves (necessary for Standard Precautions)

PROCEDURE:
1. Adhere to Standard Precautions.
2. Explain procedure to patient.
3. Assemble equipment.
4. Make sure there is no draft on patient.
5. Protect floor with newspaper or paper bags.
6. Raise the bed to the highest horizontal position. Lower the headrest and the side rails on the side you are working.
7. Place the chair or small table at the side of the bed near the patient's head. Protect with paper. The chair/table should be lower than the mattress. The back of the chair should be touching the mattress.
8. Inspect the patient's hair for knots and lice. If the patient has knots, carefully comb them out. If the client has lice, stop the procedure and report this to your supervisor. Lice are tiny wingless insects that live on hair and scalp.
9. Place the large basin or pail on the chair/table. Place container with warm water on table within easy reach.
10. Remove the pillow from under the patient's head.
11. Use shampoo tray or ring, if available; if not, roll sides of plastic sheet to form a trough. This makes a channel for the water to run into the pail. Three sides must be rolled to make a channel. The top edge should be rolled around a rolled bath towel. Place the edge with the rolled bath towel under the patient's neck and head. Have the open edge hanging into the pail or basin.
12. Position patient so that head is at edge of bed, and roll pillow under neck for support.
13. Fasten towel around patient's neck. Cover pillow and bed with plastic.
15. Loosen clothing, so the patient is comfortable and no clothing is in the trough.
16. Ask patient to hold washcloth over his/her eyes.
17. Fill container with warm water. Check the water temperature and have the patient test to comfort level. Using a pitcher or cup, pour some water over the patient's hair. Repeat until the hair is completely wet.
18. Apply shampoo. Using both hands, wash the hair and massage the scalp with your fingertips. Avoid using your fingernails, as they could scratch the patient's scalp.
   [Note: You may want to use gloves if you see lesions, sores or lice in the patient's scalp].
19. Rinse hair thoroughly to remove all soap. Repeat lather and rinse thoroughly again.
20. Apply conditioner or rinse if patient requests.
21. Dry the patient's forehead and ears.
22. Remove the cotton from the patient's ears.
23. Raise the patient's head and wrap it in a bath towel.
24. Remove plastic sheet from pillow and bed. Dry hair by rubbing with towels. If an electric blow dryer is available, use it on low setting. Keep patient well covered to prevent chilling.
25. Comb or brush, and style hair.
26. Lower the bed to its lowest horizontal position and raise the side rails.
27. Make the patient comfortable.
28. Clean equipment and put it in its proper place.
29. Discard soiled supplies in appropriate containers.

AFTER CARE:
1. Document procedure in patient's record and patient tolerance.
3. Report any changes in condition of scalp to supervisor.

REFERENCE: