



Procedure:	Code Blue (Non-Acute Site) – Adult Medical Emergency	
Owner:	Director, Patient Relations, Security Services and Chief Privacy and Risk Officer	
Sponsor:	Vice President, Patient Care and Risk	
Approval by:	Emergency Management Committee	2023-09-07
Original Effective Date: 2019-02-14	Reviewed Date(s): 2023-09-07	Revised Date(s): 2023-09-07

<p>This procedure applies to:</p> <p>Or</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> St. Joseph's Health Care London <input type="checkbox"/> Mount Hope Centre for Long-Term Care <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parkwood Institute Main Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parkwood Institute Mental Health Care Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> St. Joseph's Hospital <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Southwest Centre for Forensic Mental Health Care
<p>(If this procedure applies to all sites, please check St. Joseph's Health Care London only.)</p>	

<p>Former Corporate Policy: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If yes, Policy Name:</p> <p>Date Changed to Procedure:</p>
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<p>There is a similar/same procedure at LHSC: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If yes, Procedure Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Department <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporate</p> <p>Procedure Name: Code Blue - Cardiac Arrest/Medical Emergency</p> <p>Procedure Owner: Capital Redevelopment and Environmental Operations Executive</p>

PURPOSE

This emergency response procedure pertains to Parkwood Institute Main Building, Parkwood Institute Mental Health Care Building and the Southwest Centre for Forensic Mental Health Care. It does not pertain to offsite locations. For Mount Hope, refer to policy Code Blue Events and the Use and Maintenance of AEDs (Automatic External Defibrillators).

St. Joseph's Health Care London (St. Joseph's) is committed to ensuring the safety of all patients, staff, visitors and affiliates and will activate a CODE BLUE response to ensure prompt care for a person in cardiac arrest or experiencing a medical emergency.

PROCEDURE

- 1. The person discovering the medical emergency/first responder(s) will:**
 - 1.1. Summon help from the surrounding area.
 - 1.2. Initiate Emergency CODE BLUE procedures.
 - 1.2.1. Locate the nearest phone and dial 55555 (may delegate).
 - a. State that you have a CODE BLUE.
 - b. Provide information of the type of medical emergency.
 - c. Provide detailed information about the location of the emergency.
 - i. Which facility are you at.
 - ii. Building, floor, zone and unit/department
 - iii. Provide the room number you are in or the nearest room number to your location.
 - d. Stay on the phone to provide ambulance dispatch with details of the incident.

- 1.2.2. Trained staff will initiate basic cardiac life support procedures (CPR and AED) if indicated, unless a no resuscitation/Allow Natural Death directive is known.
 - a. Note: At St. Joseph's Health Care London, only registered nurses (RN and RPN), respiratory therapists (RRT), and security personnel are authorized to deliver a shock.
- 1.2.3. Refer to BCLS Algorithm (Appendix A)
- 1.3. Ensure your personal safety and the safety of others.
 - 1.3.1. Don appropriate PPE.
 - a. Required PPE when a Bag Valve Mask (BVM) is being using
 - i. An N95 mask
 - ii. Gown
 - iii. Eye protection
 - iv. Bouffant
 - v. Extended-length gloves
 - 1.3.2. Relay all clear directives prior to defibrillations.
- 1.4. Be available to responders on their arrival to:
 - 1.4.1. Provide patient history and relevant data,
 - 1.4.2. Answer questions,
 - 1.4.3. Receive further instructions
- 1.5. Assist as directed by the CODE BLUE Leader.
 - 1.5.1. Assistance may include but is not limited to:
 - a. Assisting with CPR
 - b. Completing or retrieving documentation
 - c. Provide crowd control
 - d. Runner to retrieve additional supplies
- 1.6. Inform on-site area leadership, when safe to do so.
- 1.7. Spiritual Care can be made available, if required, be contacting switchboard and requesting to have the on-call chaplain paged.

2. When notified of a CODE BLUE, Security Control Centre (SCC) will:

- 2.1. Obtain information from caller.
 - 2.1.1. CODE BLUE
 - 2.1.2. Nature of emergency
 - 2.1.3. Location of emergency
 - a. Building
 - b. Unit/Department
 - c. Zone
 - d. Floor
 - e. Room Number
- 2.2. Notify the local Ambulance Service
 - 2.2.1. Provide information
 - a. Nature of emergency
 - b. Location
 - c. Entrance to use
 - 2.2.2. Keep Ambulance dispatcher on the line
- 2.3. Connect the Ambulance Service and the person initiating the call, if caller is available, so that information can be shared accurately.
 - 2.3.1. Remain on the line to ensure all information is shared.
- 2.4. Activation CODE BLUE (ENS1).
 - 2.4.1. Send out the CODE BLUE Emergency Notification System ENS1 page.
 - a. The following information is relayed:
 - i. CODE BLUE
 - ii. Location of the emergency
 - 2.4.2. Advise Security Services via radio communication.
 - a. Include the location to meet the responding Ambulance.
 - 2.4.3. Complete an overhead announcement.
 - a. State "Attention please, CODE BLUE, (location)."
 - b. Repeat 3 times.
- 2.5. Keep a log of events.

3. When notified of a CODE BLUE, Security Services will:

- 3.1. First responding Security Guard respond to area of the medical emergency
 - 3.1.1. Don appropriate PPE.

- a. Required PPE when using a Bag Valve Mask (BVM)
 - i. An N95 mask
 - ii. Gown
 - iii. Eye protection
 - iv. Bouffant
 - v. Extended-length gloves
 - 3.1.2. Provide assistance as required.
 - 3.1.3. Direct additional responders to the location
 - 3.1.4. Provide crowd control
 - 3.1.5. Retrieve and hold elevator for transporting the patient, if required.
 - 3.2. Second responding Security Guard will respond to the predetermined entrance to escort the arriving Ambulance Service to and from the location of the medical emergency.
 - 3.2.1. This task can be delegated if additional security guard is not available.
 - 3.3. Keep the Security Control Centre apprised of the situation.
 - 3.4. Complete a detailed report for the incident, once the Ambulance Service has left.
- 4. When notified of a CODE BLUE, the CODE BLUE Leader will:**
 - 4.1. Respond to the area of the medical emergency depending on locations outlined in Code Blue Response Based on Location (Appendix F).
 - 4.2. Don appropriate PPE.
 - 4.2.1. Required PPE when a Bag Valve Mask (BVM) is being using
 - a. An N95 mask
 - b. Gown
 - c. Eye protection
 - d. Bouffant
 - e. Extended-length gloves
 - 4.3. Ensure emergency equipment has been obtained.
 - 4.4. Ensure BCLS with AED are initiated, if indicated.
 - 4.4.1. Continue efforts until EMS arrives and assumes control.
 - 4.5. Delegate someone to complete documentation.
 - 4.5.1. A CODE BLUE Record sheet will be completed
 - a. Review Non-Acute Code Blue Record (Appendix E)
 - 4.5.2. The yellow copy of the Code Blue Record sheet is sent with EMS to ER.
 - 4.5.3. The white copy is placed on the patients' health record (filed in chronological order within the progress notes)
 - 4.5.4. The pink copy is sent to Health Records for review and data collection by the Non-Acute Emergency Response Committee.
 - 4.5.5. An Incident Report, if indicated, will be completed.
 - 4.6. Report to EMS and ensure that a link is established with ER triage nurse to give a history of the patient while they are enroute.
 - 4.7. Direct unit/clinic/area staff to notify the patient's physician and Substitute Decision Maker (SDM) of the medical emergency.
 - 4.8. Ensure emergency equipment is cleaned and restocked.
 - 4.8.1. Refer to Replacement of Equipment (Appendix D)
- 5. When notified of a CODE BLUE, additional CODE BLUE responders:**
 - 5.1. Respond to the area of the medical emergency depending on locations outlined in Code Blue Response Based on Location (Appendix F).
 - 5.2. Don appropriate PPE.
 - 5.2.1. Required PPE when a Bag Valve Mask (BVM) is being using
 - a. An N95 mask
 - b. Gown
 - c. Eye protection
 - d. Bouffant
 - e. Extended-length gloves
 - 5.3. Assist as directed by the CODE BLUE Leader
 - 5.3.1. Assistance may include but not limited to:
 - a. Retrieve equipment
 - i. Review Emergency Equipment Location (Appendix B)
 - b. Assist with CPR and AED
 - c. Complete documentation
 - d. Crowd control

- e. Runner to retrieve additional supplies
- 5.4. Ensure your personal safety and the safety of others.
5.4.1. Don PPE.

DEFINITIONS

AED –automated external defibrillator

Affiliates – Individuals who are not employed by the organization but perform specific tasks at or for the organization, including appointed professionals (e.g., physicians, dentists), students, volunteers, researchers, contractors or contracted staff who may be members of a third-party contract or under direct contract to the organization and individuals working at the organization but funded through an external source (e.g., research employees funded by Western).

BCLS – Basic Cardiac Life Support

CODE BLUE Leader – The Code Leader must be established. It must be one of the trained staff. The Code Leader position may be transferred to another person with more knowledge, skills and abilities.

CPR –Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.

Emergency Notification System – The Emergency Notification System is an in house, proprietary automated system which is operated from the Security Control Centre (SCC). This system is utilized when a caller dials 55555 to report an emergency, or the SCC is notified of through the Community. The ENS system is also activated when an internal monitoring system (i.e., Fire Alarm System) indicates an emergency.

The ENS System is based upon two levels of notification. The first notification is for assigned first responders. The second level of notification is an escalated notification for leadership (on-call) to respond to provide additional support.

ENS1:

- Upon notification, the SCC notifies “first responders” by radio, pager and overhead announcement to respond and assess, mitigate or prevent the emergency from escalating and conduct response activities. Depending on the situation, the SCC will also notify key external responders (i.e. local fire, police, and ambulance) as required.

EMS – Emergency Medical Services

PPE – Personal protective equipment

Staff – An individual who is hired and paid by the organization.

REFERENCES

Legislation

Government of Ontario (1990) Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1990

Government of Ontario (1990) Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA), Section 51: Notice of death or injury

Appendices

Appendix A

BCLS Algorithm

Appendix B

Emergency Equipment Location

Appendix C

Composition of Code Blue Response Equipment

Appendix D

Replacement of Equipment

Appendix E

Non-Acute Code Blue Record

Appendix F

Code Blue Response Based on Location