



ST. JOSEPH'S CARE GROUP

Code Blue – Cardiac Arrest/Medical Emergency

POLICY Number: **AD-06-199**

Manual: Global Administrative Manual

Approval Date: May 26, 2023

Section in Manual: Risk Management

Approved by: Leadership Quality, Safety & Risk Committee

Cross References: *Emergency/ Disaster Incident Management System (IMS) Response AD-06-225, Leadership Team On-Call Protocol*

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide an appropriate response to a cardiac arrest or medical emergency.

Policy Statement

This policy outlines the procedures that must be followed during a cardiac arrest/medical emergency response at a SJCG facility. Any sites/departments that have a Code Blue Emergency Code Sub-Plan will follow their site-specific procedures outlined in that sub-plan.

Scope

This policy applies to any cardiac arrest or medical emergency that is in progress within a SJCG facility.

Definitions

Code Blue – the designated word that clearly communicates to all staff that a cardiac arrest/medical emergency is in progress.

PPE – personal protective equipment.

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Procedure

FIRST RESPONSE

1. Recognize that there is a medical emergency.
2. Announce “**Code Blue – Location**” three times, following the site-specific overhead paging or communication processes (e.g. *67, radios, etc.). For sites who do not have the *67 phone function for announcing emergency codes, please refer to the Table 1 below.

Table 1: Emergency code communication for sites that do not have *67

Site	Emergency Code Communication Process
Heritage	- Dial 0 on any land line phone within the Heritage to contact Front Desk. Inform Front Desk employee of emergency code and location. Front Desk employee will announce the code throughout the building.
PR Cook	- Dial 0 on any land line phone within the Heritage to contact Front Desk. Inform Front Desk employee of emergency code and location. Front Desk employee will announce code throughout the building. - Use radios to communicate emergency to other PR Cook employees
Sister Leila Greco	- Emergency is communicated via radio
The Lodge on Dawson	- Emergency is communicated verbally or via radio
Medium & High Support Housing	- Emergency is communicated verbally

3. Don appropriate PPE.
4. Establish unresponsiveness, absence of pulse, absence of respiration and/or need for an ambulance.
5. Remain with the person until responders arrive with appropriate equipment.
6. If the person experiencing the cardiac/medical event is a client/resident, confirm DNAR status.

7. If client/resident is a DNAR:
 - Call 9-911 and request an ambulance
 - Inform EMS of any known important medical information
 - Notify next of kin (if applicable)
8. If the person is NOT a confirmed DNAR:
 - Call 9-911 and request an ambulance
 - Trained responders should initiate Basic Life Support and/or first aid procedures if required
 - Continue with Basic Life Support and/or First Aid procedures until the arrival of EMS
 - Inform EMS of any known medical information
 - Notify next of kin (if applicable)
9. Announce **“Code Blue – All Clear”** three times, following the site-specific overhead paging or communication processes (e.g. *67, radios, etc.).

POST EMERGENCY

- Document the occurrence on an Emergency Code Audit Form
- Complete any other program specific documentation required

Roles & Responsibilities

MANAGER/ DESIGNATE

1. Coordinate a debrief with staff following the incident if required.
2. Ensure all appropriate documentation is completed.

ALL STAFF

1. Do not use elevators during a Code Blue.
2. Staff who are trained in Basic Life Support/First Aid will respond to the Code Blue location.
3. Participate in debriefing if required.

Education & Training

1. All employees are required to complete the Fire Safety & Emergency Code LMS module once per year.
2. Managers are required to ensure that employees review the corporate emergency code policies and emergency site sub-plans at least annually.
3. Each department/site will complete mock exercises or table top exercises at a minimum of once per year and provide documentation of such to Occupational Health, Safety & Wellness.