

RANCHO LOS AMIGOS NATIONAL REHABILITATION CENTER

DATE: April 8, 2015 (revised)



TO: ALL (Employee's, New Employees, Volunteers,
New Volunteers and Contracted Personal)

SUBJECT: Effective June 1, 2015 – NEW DHS Standardized Emergency Codes

Emergency Codes - Policy

- Standardized emergency codes will be used at all DHS patient care facilities within the Department of Health Services.
- The following standardized emergency codes shall be used for paging over the public address (PA) system and/or other appropriate means of communication at patient care facilities.

Purpose of Emergency Codes Policy

To enhance the safety of workforce members, patients, and visitors across the enterprise by facilitating appropriate response to specific emergencies through code uniformity.

Emergency Codes Awareness Training

Purpose

- To provide basic knowledge of Code Definitions.
- To provide specific procedures on each Code.

Additions to Standardized Codes

Future code additions or changes must be approved by DHS through a centralized review and approval process defined in DHS policy No. 905.000.

Emergency Code - Summary

CODE Name	Description	CALL EXT.
CODE ASSIST	Urgent Medical Assistance to Outpatients, Visitors, and Staff	544
CODE BLUE	Adult Medical Emergency	544
CODE GOLD	Mental Health/Behavioral Response	0
CODE GRAY	Combative Person	0
CODE GREEN	Patient Elopement	0
CODE ORANGE	Hazardous Material Spill/Release	7291 after hrs "0"
CODE PINK	Infant Abduction	0
CODE PURPLE	Child Abduction	0
CODE RAPID REPOSE	Urgent Medical Attention to Inpatients	544
CODE RED	Fire	522
CODE SILVER	Person with a Weapon and/or Active Shooter and/or Hostage Situation	551
CODE TRIAGE ALERT	Potential Disaster	0
CODE TRIAGE EXTERNAL	External Disaster	0
CODE TRIAGE INTERNAL	Internal Disaster	0
CODE WHITE	Pediatric Medical Emergency	544
CODE YELLOW	Bomb Threat	551

CODE BLUE



Medical Emergency (ADULT)

- Initiated **immediately** if an adult is found in cardiac or respiratory arrest.

Expected Staff Response:

- If you discover someone who has suffered cardiac or respiratory arrest **call ext. 544**
- Trained clinicians** will respond to site when Code Blue is initiated.
- Assess patient and begin procedures to open airway, begin rescue breathing and/or initiate CPR, as needed
- Non-clinical staff is expected to clear the area of people, materials, or any obstacles. (crowd control)

CODE WHITE



Medical Emergency (PEDIATRIC)

Initiated **immediately** whenever a suspected or imminent cardiopulmonary arrest for a pediatric patient is found.

Expected Staff Response:

- If you discover someone who has suffered cardiac or respiratory arrest **call ext. 544**
- Trained clinicians** will respond to site when Code White is initiated.
- Assess patient and begin procedures to open airway, begin rescue breathing and/or initiate CPR, as needed.
- Non-clinical staff is expected to clear the area of people, materials, or any obstacles. (Crowd control)

CODE RAPID RESPONSE

Urgent medical attention for inpatients that are not in cardiac or respiratory arrest.

Expected Staff Response:

- If you discover someone in distress **call ext. 544**
- Designated onsite clinical personnel will respond.
- All other staff should clear the area (crowd control).
- All other staff should support the rapid response team in managing the situation.



CODE ASSIST



Urgent medical assistance for outpatients, visitors, and staff that are not in cardiac or respiratory arrest

Expected Staff Response:

- If you discover someone in distress **call ext. 544**
- Designated site personnel will respond to these situations.
- Clear area of people, materials, or obstacles (crowd control).

CODE GOLD



Mental Health/Behavioral Response

Initiated when there is an emergency or concern involving an individual's mental state of well-being and their potential to bring harm to others or to themselves.

Expected Staff Response:

- If a clinical staff believes patient's behavior has escalated to a point at which they cannot safely control the situation **call "0" (Operator)**
- A behavioral response team will respond in these situations.
- All other staff should clear the area and remain calm (crowd control).
- All other staff should support the response team in managing the situation.

CODE GRAY



Aggressive, hostile, combative or potentially combative persons.

- Initiated when staff is concerned about their own safety and the safety of others due to abusive or assaultive behavior.

Expected Staff Response:

- **Call "0" (Operator)**
- Security or law enforcement personnel should be contacted immediately.
- Assist victim(s) and remain calm and non-combative (diffuse the situation).
- If possible, move non-involved persons out of area.

CODE SILVER

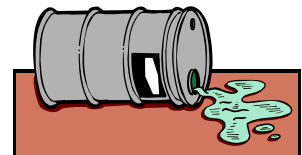


Person With A Weapon, Active Shooter and/or Hostage Situation

Expected Staff Response:

- **Call "551"** If you are calling from a cell phone or outside the buildings within Rancho's grounds, LASD's direct line (562) 401-7042. LASD shall notify the facility Operator and outside law enforcement agencies.
- Remain calm to the best of your ability and seek cover and warn others of the situation.
- Clear immediate danger area of all personnel and patients, if it is safe to do so and secure location/hide out
- Notify the operator of the incident with all known information.
 - Location - building, area, floor and room number.
 - Suspects - number and any physical descriptions.
 - Any known hostages or victims.
 - Any other relevant information (e.g., weapons, demands).

CODE ORANGE



Hazardous Material Spill or Release

A spill or release of a substance that is likely to cause injury or illness, or may harm the environment.

Expected Staff Response:

- Designated personnel trained in hazmat/spill cleanup will respond.
- **Affected staff:**
 1. Evacuate the area and deny entry (isolate contaminated area).
 2. For appropriate emergency response **call ext. 7291, after hours call "0" (Operator).**
 3. Have MSDS/SDS ready for emergency responders.
- **Other staff:**
 1. Stay away from Code Orange location.

CODE GREEN



Patient Elopement: Missing or eloping patient who is determined to be a danger to himself/herself, others or who is identified as a safety risk.

Expected Staff Response:

- Call ext. "0" to notify the operator immediately and provide the following information:
- Description of the eloped patient.
- Time and location the patient was last seen.

Support response team in conducting a facility-wide search (if necessary)

CODE PINK

Infant Abduction



CODE PURPLE

Child Abduction



If someone comes to you and tells you they cannot find their child:

- Immediately ask the parent:
 - How old is the child?
 - Where was the child last seen?
 - Description of child: color of eyes; hair; height; weight
 - What is the child wearing; colors, clothing (dress, overall's etc.)
- Immediately call "0" (Operator) with the child's information you have gathered from the parent.
- "0" operator will make the "Code Pink" or "Code Purple" announcement with the description of the child.

The Code Pink/Purple will go into effect:

- Immediately take the parent to a secluded/private area. Inform the parent of the hospital's "Code Pink/Purple" procedure that goes into place when the Code is announced.
- Inform the parent that a Sheriff Deputy are on their way and will take a report.

Expected Staff Response:

- All available staff members are required to immediately stop all non-critical work immediately, secure exits in their area.
- Report any suspicious person to the Sheriff's Department on ext. 551.
- Staff will temporarily lock down the entrances and prevent anyone from entering or exiting the area/facility.
- Cover all interior stairwell doors, elevator areas and doors that exit anywhere near their area.
- Be aware of anyone carrying large duffle bags or bags that can fit a baby.
- All employees participate in the search of the child until the announcement "Code Pink/Purple All Clear" is announced.

CODE RED



Fire

- Initiated immediately when fire, smoke or burning material is observed in the area.

Expected Staff Response:

Follow **RACE Method** –

- **R**emove patients, visitors, and personnel from the immediately affected area.
 - **A**ctivate the fire alarm, **call ext. 522** report fire to Downey Fire Department, give location of the fire (building, floor, room # and what type of fire) notify others in the affected area to obtain assistance
 - **C**ontain the fire and smoke by closing all doors
 - **E**xtinguish the fire if it is safe to do so, follow the PASS method
- To extinguish a small fire follow the **PASS Method** – note; 5 lb. fire extinguishers will empty in less than one minute.
 - **P** = **Pull the pin, if it is hard to break the plastic seal twist and pull**
 - **A** = **Aim the hose at the base of the fire**
 - **S** = **Squeeze the handle/trigger**
 - **S** = **Sweep at the base of the fire**

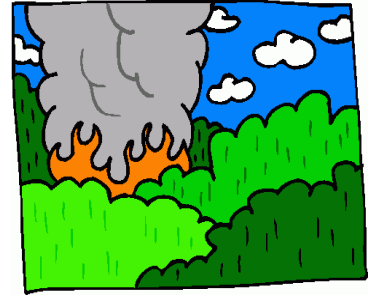


CODE TRIAGE :

Alert

Internal

External



Alert: Informs staff that an event has occurred, or may occur, that could potentially impact the facility.

Internal: Is the activation of the organization's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) to respond to an event that has occurred within the facility

External: Is the activation of the organization's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) to respond to an external event that has disrupted, or may disrupt, the facility's normal operations.

Expected Staff Response:

- To activate the Incident Command Post, call "0" (Operator) with the location of the ICP.
- Remain calm and observant
- Pre-designated key personnel will respond to the Hospital Command Center (HCC) for an incident briefing and planning meeting.
- The nature and severity of the incident will determine if the Hospital Command Center (HCC) will be partially or fully activated.

CODE YELLOW



Bomb Threat

- To provide an appropriate response in the event of a bomb threat or the discovery of a suspicious device or item.

Expected Staff Response:

- Remain calm.
- **If threaten by phone** - Try to prolong the conversation and get as much information as possible
- Signal a fellow employee to notify the campus **Los Angeles Sheriff's Department on ext. 551 and notify the Operator on ext. "0"** to report the threat.
- Notify your supervisor immediately.
- Note any suspicious containers/packages and do not open.
- Avoid further handling of materials to prevent the contamination of evidence.

**RANCHO LOS AMIGOS NATIONAL REHABILITATION CENTER
DHS STANDARDIZED EMERGENCY CODES**

POST TEST

1. What is the purpose of using standardized Emergency Codes throughout DHS?
 - a. To make things more difficult.
 - b. To confuse all employees.
 - c. To enhance workplace safety.
 - d. To have as many colors as possible.
2. Which Code is used for Adult Medical Emergencies?
 - a. Code Gold
 - b. Code Assist
 - c. Code White
 - d. Code Blue
3. When is Code Rapid Response used?
 - a. Pediatric emergency
 - b. Bomb threat
 - c. Infant abduction
 - d. Urgent medical attention for inpatients
4. An infant goes into cardiac arrest, what Code should be called?
 - a. Code Blue
 - b. Code White
 - c. Code Orange
 - d. Code Green
5. Code Gray is used for what situations?
 - a. Combative person
 - b. Patient elopement
 - c. Hazardous material spill
 - d. Urgent medical assistance
6. If there is an active shooter on site, what Code should be called?
 - a. Code Silver
 - b. Code Red
 - c. Code Orange
 - d. Code Rapid Response

**RANCHO LOS AMIGOS NATIONAL REHABILITATION CENTER
DHS STANDARDIZED EMERGENCY CODES**

POST TEST

7. If a child is being abducted what Code should be called?
 - a. Code Pink
 - b. Code Red
 - c. Code Purple
 - d. Code Silver

8. There is a power outage at your facility, what Code should be called?
 - a. Code Triage – Internal
 - b. Code Triage – Alert
 - c. Code Rapid Response
 - d. Code Triage – External

9. If there is patient elopement, what Code should be called?
 - a. Code Yellow
 - b. Code Elopement
 - c. Code Rapid Response
 - d. Code Green

10. If there is a patient with a mental Health/behavioral situation, what Code should be called?
 - a. Code Red
 - b. Code Green
 - c. Code Rapid Response
 - d. Code Gold

EMPLOYEE NAME

DATE

EMPLOYEE #

DEPARTMENT

References

- Department of Health Services, Emergency Codes, Policy No.905.000
- Hospital Association of Southern California (HASC), Health Care Emergency Codes – A Guide for Code Standardization, 2014

For More Information:

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(562) 401-6672

RANCHO LOS AMIGOS NATIONAL REHABILITATION CENTER

March 26, 2015 In-service

DHS Standardized Emergency Codes

Intended Audience: All _____ Department
Employees

Objectives: At the completion of this in-service the employee will:

1. Know the new sixteen DHS Emergency Codes to be implemented on June 1, 2015.
2. Know the definition for each code.
3. How to respond to each code.