

INTRODUCTION: There are seven components that comprise the “Environment of Care” standards (“EOC”): These include: Safety, Security, Hazardous Materials, Life Safety, Emergency Preparedness, Clinical Equipment, and Utilities. Taken together, they afford a standards-based approach to the management of the “environment of care”, the environment within which our patients are housed overnight. Each component, from an accreditation standpoint, has key pieces that require support by way of a written document, or a written procedure, a documented action, and ways to implement and monitor all related education, performance standards and the effectiveness of the overall component. By participating in this learning module, you are receiving important safety information that will assist in maintaining protection for you and for our patients.

11 TJC FUNCTIONS

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| 1. <i>Ethics, Rights and Responsibilities</i> | 5. <i>Nursing</i> | 9. <i>Management of Human Resources</i> |
| 2. <i>Provision of Care, Treatment, and Services</i> | 6. <i>Improving Organizational Performance</i> | 10. <i>Management of Information</i> |
| 3. <i>Medication Management</i> | 7. <i>Leadership</i> | 11. <i>Surveillance, Prevention, and Control of Infection</i> |
| 4. <i>Medical Staff</i> | 8. <i>Management of the Environment of Care</i> | |

ENVIRONMENT OF CARE COMPONENTS

SAFETY

Requires a plan that includes processes for information collection and monitoring from a variety of sources: Risk Management, Safety Surveillance, Product Recalls, Medication Errors, Employee Injuries; establishes a safety officer position, education, policies and procedures, performance standards and evaluation.

PHYSICIAN ROLE:

Know location of EOC Policies (Policy Tech) and written Illness and Injury Prevention Program;

- Know to complete an Unusual Occurrence Form in the event something negative or unusual happens to you or your patient
- Reads this safety module to become familiar with resources.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Requires a plan that includes processes for the following: selecting, handling, storing, using and disposing of hazardous wastes from receipt through use or final disposal; includes education, emergency procedures, performance standards, monitoring and evaluation.

PHYSICIAN ROLE:

- Know location of SDS (in Maxcom binder on the floors and on the computer)
- Wear proper protective wear
- Inquire regarding proper disposal of spent chemicals
- Require labels on all chemical that are used by you.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Requires a plan that includes procedures for a variety of disasters, and includes defining: roles for staff and MD's, alternate forms of communication, space/supply/security management, alternate sources of utilities and care sites, available facilities for decontamination, the management of patients; includes education, policies/procedures, performance standards and evaluation.

PHYSICIAN ROLE:

- Responsible to render medical evaluation and care during the emergency within the scope of their competence and privileges granted unto them by the medical staff.
- Report to Physician's Labor Pool located in the Medical Staff Lounge.
- Wear KH name badges during the emergency period.

- Know that the hospital uses the HICS system for the management of disasters--managers are pre-assigned
- To disaster roles, and carry out functional responsibilities relating to the disaster.

CLINICAL EQUIPMENT

Requires a plan that includes processes for selecting and acquiring medical equipment, for identifying, evaluating and taking inventory of equipment, for Assessing and minimizing clinical And physical risks through inspection, testing and maintenance, monitoring and acting on hazard notices and recalls, and upon incidents in which a medical device is connected to the death or serious injury of a patient; Includes investigating/reporting problems, failures, user errors, and education, policies, procedures, performance standards and evaluation.

PHYSICIAN ROLE:

- Sequester any medical equipment you suspect or know was involved in a patient incident; notify Clinical Engineering immediately.
- **Do not** use any medical equipment on a patient unless it has been first checked by Clinical Engineering.
- **Equipment in the OR:** Must be checked by Clinical Engineering prior to usage.

SECURITY:

Requires a plan that includes processes for establishing and maintaining a security program, for providing identification, access and vehicular control, reporting and investigating all incidents; provides for education, emergency procedures, performance standards and evaluation.

PHYSICIAN ROLE:

Wear ID Badge

Dial 44 to report:

- Code Blue: Medical Emergency Adult
- Code White: Medical Emergency Pediatric
- Code Red: Fire
- Code Pink: Infant Abduction
- Code Purple: Child Abduction
- Code Green – Patient Elopement
- Code Yellow: Bomb Threat
- Code Gray: Combative Person
- Code Silver: Weapon/hostage – Stay Away
- Code Orange: Haz/Mat spill
- Code Triage Alert: Potential Disaster
- Code Triage: Actual Disaster
- If you are a physician who works in the ED: Participate in **AB508 Training.**

FIRE PREVENTION

Requires a plan that includes processes for the following: Maintaining compliance with Life Safety Code; protection of patients, personnel, property and visitors from fire; maintaining all applicable structural features of fire protection; inspecting and testing of equipment, reviewing proposed acquisitions, reporting and investigating life-safety deficiencies; includes education, emergency procedures, performance standards and evaluation.

PHYSICIAN ROLE:

Implement:

- **Rescue** endangered patients
- **Activate** the alarm system
- **Contain** the fire
- **Extinguish** the fire
- Know where the fire alarm and fire extinguishers are;
- Know that the hospital is a series of “compartments” designed to prevent the spread of smoke and fire.

- Know that you may be needed to help transfer patients to a “Point of refuge” (i.e., an adjacent smoke compartment).
- Know how to call a Code Red: dial 44

UTILITY SYSTEMS

Requires a plan that includes processes for a safe, controlled environment, assessment and minimization of risks, operational reliability of utility systems, criteria for identifying, evaluating and taking inventory of critical operating components; inspecting testing and maintenance of operating components, reporting problems; includes education, emergency procedures, performance standards and evaluation.

PHYSICIAN ROLE:

- Know that the hospital's generators will “kick-in” in less than 10 seconds.
- You may be needed to assist patients whose equipment has failed due to a power outage.

A Note of Appreciation:

Thank you for your participation in this learning module; it is hoped that this information has been helpful for you. If you have any questions, or would like to report a safety hazard to the safety office, you may do so (anonymously if preferred) at ext. 2381.