



# Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center PHYSICAL THERAPY DEPARTMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURE

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## MANAGEMENT OF PATIENTS IN DISTRESS NEEDING URGENT MEDICAL SERVICES WHEN NO PHYSICIAN IS IN ATTENDANCE

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### PURPOSE:

To identify whom to contact when a patient is in distress and a physician is not in attendance. \* The PT Department follows the Hospital Administrative Policies #B812, #B812.1 & #A123.

### POLICY:

A. In case of cardiopulmonary arrest or severe patient distress:

1. **Dial 544 (CODE BLUE ADULT/CODE WHITE PEDIATRIC)**. Identify a Code Blue/Code White emergency to operator and provide location (building number, unit name, room number, bed number or other relevant location information), distinguish if an adult or pediatric person/patient and any other important information for the operator to call an effective code blue/code white response team to the area.

Basic Cardiac Life support will be provided by the first available trained person. Persons trained in use of the AED will activate use of the AED.

2. **Dial 522** If on Rancho Grounds but in an area outside of the Code Blue/Code White response area i.e. perimeter parking lots, **dial 522 to request a Paramedic Team** and inform the operator of the emergency need.

Basic Cardiac Life support will be provided by the first available trained person. Persons trained in use of the AED will activate use of the AED.

B. In case of a deteriorating or urgent medical condition of an inpatient (Refer to Admin Policy #B812.1) that is not a cardiopulmonary arrest or severe distress requiring a Code Blue/Code White,

1. **Dial 544 - CODE RAPID RESPONSE** in the case of a deteriorating or urgent medical condition for in patients (Refer to Admin Policy #B812.1) that is not a cardiopulmonary arrest or severe distress requiring a Code Blue/Code White, when the patient's primary doctor or Nurse is not responding or available within 10 minutes or for outpatients. Dial hospital operator and identify the need for a Rapid Response Team for inpatients. Provide location and any relevant information to assist the operator in calling an effective Rapid Response.

C. Outpatients, Visitors or Staff with urgent medical condition

1. **Dial 544 CODE BLUE** for cardiac arrest
2. **Dial 544 CODE ASSIST** for urgent medical assistance to out-patients, visitors and staff.

\* Refer to Physical Therapy Policy #703 for management of therapy outpatients with urgent medical needs

\* Refer to Administrative Policy #A123 for outpatients and visitors

  
Director, Physical Therapy Department

