

**POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL
PHARMACY SERVICES**

SECTION: **PHARMACY SERVICES**

SUBJECT: **CRASH CART & EMERGENCY TRAY**

CODE: 1.21.0
DATE: 7/1/92
REVISED: 4/19/22
APPROVED: Thinkh Tran, Pharm. D.
MEC APPROVED: 12/14/11,2/22/12
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POLICY

The emergency drug list is the drugs listed in the emergency cart. Emergency drugs approved by the medical staff, are in adequate and proper supply in the pharmacy and in designated hospital areas. The pharmacist is responsible only for the drug contents (adult and pediatric) for the crash cart. Attached are the lists of the drugs for both the Adult and Pediatric crash carts.

The crash carts and the dates of the earliest expiration date are checked no less frequently than every 30 days by a pharmacist and recorded on the Medication Area Inspection Record (unit/inspection record). The original inspection records are kept in the pharmacy for at least three years.

PROCEDURE

Nursing Personnel are responsible to ensure crash carts are fully restocked after a Code Blue for crash carts placed in nursing units. Pharmacy is responsible to assure that the emergency medications are replenished, and the crash cart is checked, and sealed by a pharmacist.

Within one hour after notification, pharmacy personnel are responsible for exchanging the crash cart during normal business hours. Note: Nursing personnel will pick up the crash cart from Pharmacy after business hours, on holidays, and weekends.

[Areas where Pediatric trays are also located are **bold-faced**]

Patient Areas - Echo Lab; Medical Imaging; Medical Science - Room 9; **Nuclear Medicine**; PAR (2); Special Procedures; **CART**. Clinics - **Central I**; **Central II**; Comarr; **Dental**; Urology. Therapy Areas - JPI Building (**1st floor**; 2nd floor; 3rd floor).

[Areas where Pediatric trays are also located are **bold-faced**]

Patient Units - **1S**, **1N**, 2S, 2N, 3S, 3N, **101 (2)**, 102, 902, 903, 904, and 905

The inpatient pharmacy will be responsible for replenishing the emergency drugs. A pharmacy technician will fill the drugs according to the approved drug list and a pharmacist will check the drugs to make certain nothing has been omitted and that all drugs are in date and note the earliest drug to expire and the expiration date. [Note: All departments contributing to the crash cart will have a first date to expire (FDTE) label or sheet for their respective drug(s)/supply and include the drug/supply and expiration date on the label or sheet. A first to expire drug/supply and expiration date label will be made, sent with the crash cart, and placed on the respective medication list(s) attached to the I.V. pole of the crash cart.

Note: This date indicates the earliest expiration of any drug/supply in the cart. Pharmacist will initial upon completion.

Reviewed: 9/30/15bj, 4/1/16bj, 4/19/2022 TT

Approved By: 

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To validate that the crash carts and crash cart trays are filled correctly, a pharmacy supervisor will randomly check 3 crash carts, 3 adult crash cart trays, and 2 pediatric crash cart trays a month to assure that the contents and the first date to expire label(s) are accurate. If the contents or the first date to expire label(s) are not accurate, the pharmacy supervisor will notify the respective department or pharmacist, take corrective measures, and report the error into Safety Intelligence (SI).