



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
HARBOR-UCLA MEDICAL CENTER

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO MEDICAL EMERGENCIES ON CAMPUS

POLICY NO. 375B

CATEGORY: Provision of Care	EFFECTIVE DATE: 1/14
POLICY CONTACT: Clinton Coil, MD	UPDATE/REVISION DATE: 9/22
REVIEWED BY COMMITTEE(S): Patient Safety Officer	

PURPOSE:

To provide a plan for the management of medical emergencies on the Harbor-UCLA Medical Center campus.

POLICY:

Harbor-UCLA Medical Center’s patients, workforce members or visitors may require emergency interventions. Patients may experience a sudden decline in clinical status. Persons who are not yet identified as patients may be unable to self-present to the Emergency Department (ED) for care.

This policy is to identify the role of Harbor-UCLA’s workforce members which includes Emergency Department (ED) staff, Code Blue, Code White, and Code Assist Response Teams, law enforcement personnel assigned to the facility (Sheriffs), and contract Security personnel in response to emergencies identified on campus.

DEFINITIONS:

The Harbor-UCLA Medical Center building is defined as the “Main” Medical Center or Main Medical Center, which includes:

- Unit 1 South
- Primary Care and Diagnostic Center (PCDC)
- Surgery/Emergency (S/E) building
- Sidewalks immediately surrounding the Main Medical Center
- Hospital Loading Dock
- Helipad (Outlined in blue on map - See **Appendix A**).

Hospital grounds are the contiguous areas of hospital property extending east/west from Carson to 220th Street and north/south from Normandie to Vermont Avenue inclusive of the sidewalk, associated parking lots (Lundquist and Lot V), and the Employee Children’s Center as seen outlined in the dashed red line in Appendix

REVISED: 2/15, 9/16, 11/19, 9/22

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APPROVED BY: _____

Anish Mahajan, MD
Chief Executive Officer
Chief Medical Officer

Griselda Gutierrez, MD
Associate Chief Medical Officer

Jason Black, MBA, DNP, RN
Chief Nursing Officer



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Code Blue: An adult medical emergency that is characterized by an individual who is unresponsive with agonal or absent respirations, with or without a pulse.

Code White: A pediatric medical emergency that is characterized by an individual who is unresponsive with agonal or absent respirations, with or without a pulse. (up to 18 years of age or admitted to inpatient pediatric service).

Code Rapid Response: Urgent medical attention for patients in all inpatient areas and clinical/ procedural areas in the main building. Code Rapid Response intends to provide rapid assessment and stabilization of patients with relocation to the appropriate level of care.

Code Assist: Urgent medical assistance for visitors, staff, and patients located in the hospital and/or on the sidewalk immediately surrounding the main medical center. The purpose of Code Assist is to expedite response and transport to the Emergency Department.

Composition of the Adult and Pediatric Code Teams:

- A. The Adult Code Blue Team and Pediatric Code White Team composition are outlined in Policy 389A “Adult Code Blue and Pediatric Code White Teams”.
- B. The Medical Rapid Response Team composition is outlined in Policy 351 “Rapid Recognition and Response to Changes in Patient Condition”.
- C. Perinatal Emergency Response Team (PERT) is comprised of representatives from OB, Labor and Delivery (L&D), Anesthesia, Pediatrics, NICU, and Respiratory Care. The PERT is activated through the OB Batch pager.
- D. Code Assist Team:
 - Code Assist calls for the Main Medical Center, which includes the basement, and 1 South will have a response from ED Nursing and House Supervisor.

PROCEDURE:

I. Emergencies on hospital grounds outside of the Main Medical Center

- A. County workforce members who identify (or who are contacted by the public regarding) a medical emergency on hospital grounds outside the confines of the Main Medical Center will immediately activate the 9-1-1 emergency medical system and notify Sheriff’s dispatch at (424) 306-4450.
 1. Response to any emergency by contract Security personnel and Sheriffs assigned to the facility will be in accordance with their policies and procedures.
 2. If not already done by County personnel, responding security personnel or Sheriffs will contact the 9-1-1 emergency medical services for evaluation and transport of these patients to Harbor-UCLA Medical Center’s Emergency Department.
 3. County personnel shall initiate emergency treatment consistent with their level of training while awaiting emergency responders.
- B. If the ED is contacted directly about medical emergencies on hospital grounds, but outside of the immediate Main Medical Center, the Department of Emergency Medicine (DEM) area Charge Nurse will be notified and determine the appropriate response to the emergency.



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1. If the emergency is adjacent to the entrance to the Emergency Department (on the sidewalk) and there are no safety hazards, the Code Assist Team staffed by ED personnel will respond to the emergency.

If the emergency is not adjacent to the entrance (further than the sidewalk), ED staff is otherwise occupied and cannot respond, or there are hazards such that it is unsafe to do so, the 9-1-1 emergency medical system and Sheriffs (424-306-4450) will be notified.

C. Role of Clinic Staff Outside of the Main Building:

1. For patients identified as requiring emergency care prior to or during their clinic appointment, clinic staff will contact 9-1-1 as per clinic written policies and procedures.
2. Clinic staff shall initiate emergency treatment consistent with their level of training while awaiting emergency responders.

D. Role of the Clinic Staff Inside the Main Building:

1. In response to an emergency, County personnel shall initiate an emergency response through the hospital operator. Initiate treatment consistent with their level of training while awaiting emergency responders.

II. Emergencies in the Main Building including Unit 1 South

- A. In response to an emergency, County personnel shall initiate an emergency response through the hospital operator. Initiate treatment consistent with their level of training while awaiting emergency responders.
 1. In response to a medical emergency, workforce members shall initiate an emergency response through the hospital operator and shall initiate treatment consistent with their level of training while awaiting emergency responders.
 - a. **CODE ASSIST:** May be activated by any Harbor workforce member concerned about a visitor, workforce member, or patient who requires transportation to the Emergency Department. The Code Assist Team will respond to code assist calls throughout the main medical center, including 1 South and the surrounding sidewalk (see Appendix B).
 - b. **CODE RAPID RESPONSE:** May be activated by a Harbor clinical provider, where the patient meets criteria per policy 351 "Rapid Recognition and Response to Changes in Patient Condition".
 - c. **CODE BLUE/CODE WHITE:** Any clinical staff who is trained to recognize a medical emergency, consisting of an individual who is unresponsive with agonal or absent respirations (with or without a pulse) may activate Code Blue/Code White regardless of patient location.
- B. The Code Blue Team will respond to all code blue calls regardless of location within the main building including 1 South.
- C. The Code White Team will respond to all code white calls regardless of the location within the main building, including 1 South.



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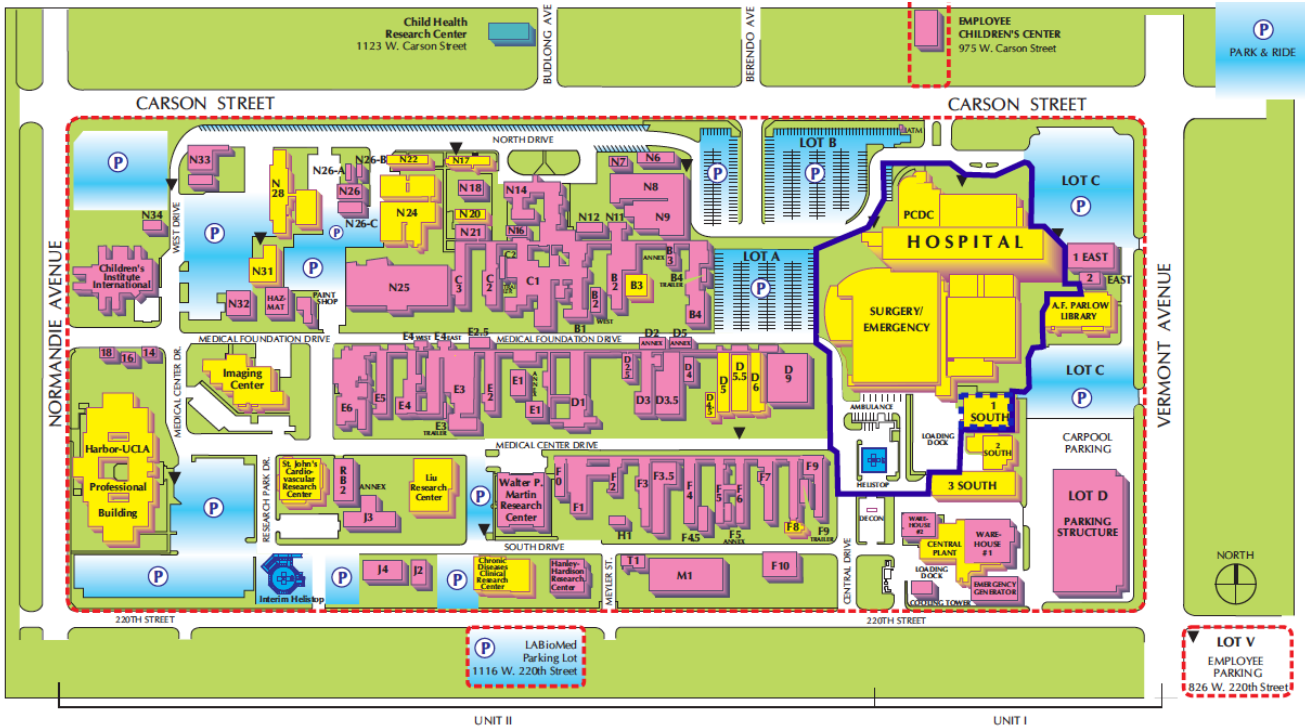
D. The Code Rapid Response Team (RRT) will respond to RRT calls within the Main Medical Center, from the second floor to the 8th floor, including 1 South. (see Appendix B).

Reviewed and approved by:
Medical Executive Committee 09/2022

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beverley A. Petrie".

Beverley A. Petrie, M.D.
President, Professional Staff Association

Appendix A
Map of the campus



The Code Teams respond to areas contained within the dark blue line. Areas outside the blue line will be primary 9-1-1 response. The Harbor-UCLA hospital grounds are outlined in the dashed red line.

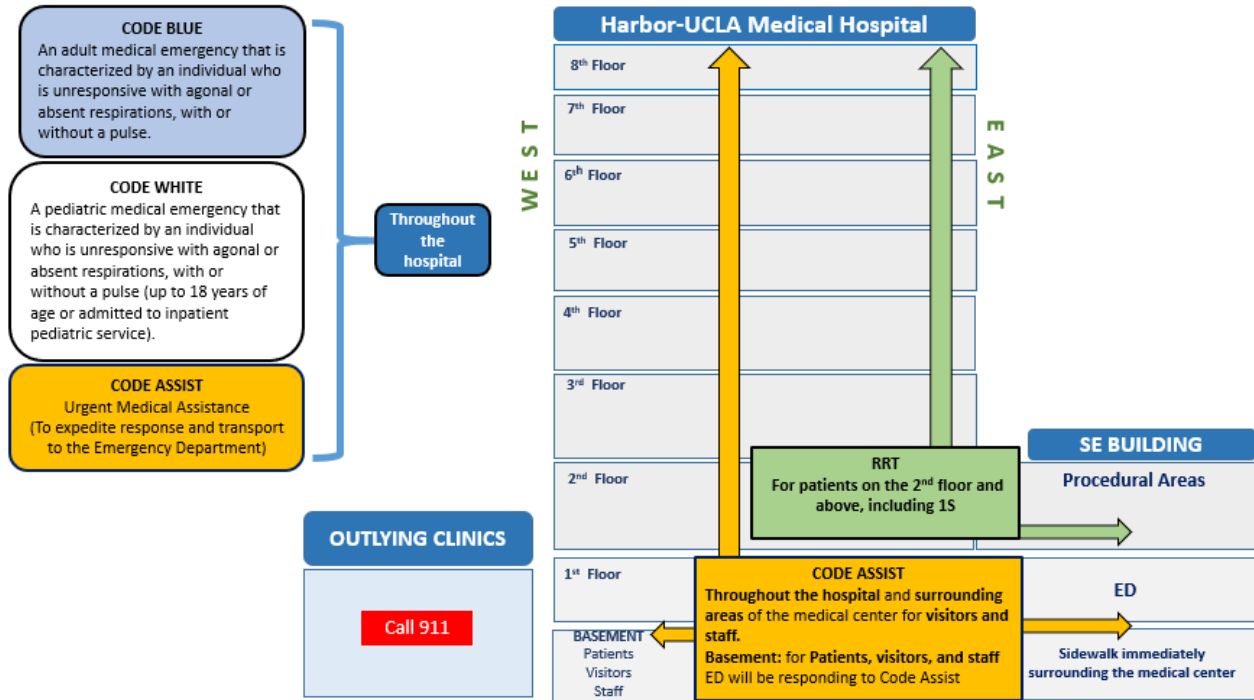


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Appendix B



Code Teams that will respond to medical emergencies in the main medical center and surrounding clinics.