



Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

POST-ANESTHESIA RECOVERY ROOM

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

SUBJECT: CODE BLUE IN PACU

Policy No.: PACU03

Supersedes: ALL

Revised Date: 12/2015

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Purpose of Procedure: To outline the responsibilities of the nurses and physicians when a cardiopulmonary arrest occurs in the PACU.

Physician's Order Required: No

Performed By: Physicians, Registered Nurses, Nursing Attendants

Procedural Steps:

1. Summon help via intercom or any other appropriate method.
KEY POINT: Charge nurse at control desk will call for "Anesthesia Stat" to the appropriate room. Response will be by all free CRNA's, Anesthesiologists, Registered Nurses.
 2. CPR will be initiated.
 3. A member of nursing staff will obtain crash cart and bring to patient area.
KEY POINT: The nurse assigned to the patient will be the nurse team leader and will assign duties to other assisting nurses.
 4. When the anesthesiologist arrives he/she will assume the role of Team Leader.
KEY POINT: An RN will be assigned to prepare and give medications and an RN will be assigned to record all information pertaining to the arrest.
 5. At the end of the Code Blue, the crash cart will be exchanged according to Nursing Policy #C112 – Routine Cleaning and Crash Cart Re-Supply System
 6. A Code Blue Evaluation sheet will be completed according to Nursing Policy #C205.20 – Code Blue Documentation and sent to the Critical Care Committee.
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REVIEWED BY: Patricia Morri, RN, BSN, Theresa Herrero RN, BSN

REFERENCES:

Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, Department of Anesthesia, Policy and Procedure Manual
Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, Department of Nursing Policy and Procedure Manual
Policy #C112 & C205.20
The Recovery Room "A Critical Care Approach to Post-Anesthesia Nursing" Sixth Edition.
