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|  | Medical Emergency Response Policy | Corporate Policy & Procedures Manual |
| | | Number: I-45 Date Approved April 25, 2018 |
| Approved by: Chief Medical Officer; and Chief Operating Officer | | Date Effective May 11, 2018 |
| | | Next Review (3 years from Effective Date) May 2021 |

Purpose

This document provides direction for medical emergency assistance for individuals who have been injured or may have collapsed on Covenant Health property.

NOTE: Inpatients in medical distress will be cared for on their unit with resources assigned to the unit (for example, the attending physician, nurse practitioner, or Rapid Response Team).

*This document is **not** intended to replace or supercede response by the Code Blue team. A “Code Blue” will continue to be called if an individual is pulseless, not breathing or has agonal breathing.*

Policy Statement

Covenant Health sites will designate staff members to respond to medical emergencies. The designated staff members (herein referred to as the ‘Medical Emergency Response team’) will respond to medical emergencies that occur within the facility, outdoors, or in ancillary buildings.

The Medical Emergency Response team shall assess the victim and, based on the individual’s injuries, accessibility to services, weather conditions and any other relevant factors, decide how to best help that individual.

Applicability

This policy and procedure applies to all Covenant Health sites.

Responsibility

Site management shall demonstrate compliance with this policy and procedure by ensuring that each site has designated staff member(s) to respond to medical emergencies.

Covenant Health sites may also develop additional procedures and/or guidelines that align and support the objectives of this document relative to their population and resources available to them. For example, a site-specific procedure that identifies who the ‘designated Medical Emergency Response team member(s) are, how to contact/alert the team members, contents of the emergency bag, response details at their particular site, etc.

The Medical Emergency Response team shall respond to medical emergency calls, assess the victim, and take steps to implement the best course of action.

Principles

Individuals who sustain an injury or medical incident while on Covenant Health property will receive medical assistance. Depending on the circumstances and available resources the Medical Emergency Response team may decide to:

- provide on-the-scene care; and/or
- have the individual moved to the Emergency Department for further assessment/care;
- call the Code response team; or
- dial 911 to have ambulance personnel move the victim to the point-of-care (in these instances the Medical Emergency Response team will stay with the victim until the ambulance arrives).

Procedure

Refer to site procedure/process.

**Related
Documents**

- Site Code Blue Emergency Response Code
- Corporate Policy/Procedure #I-25, *Emergency/Disaster Management Response*
- Edmonton Acute Care Administrative Policy/Procedure #II-90, Medical Emergency Response Procedure

Revisions

March 6, 2015
February 6, 2012