# The Institute for Patient Care

## Norman Knight Nursing Center for Clinical and Professional Development

*PCA Education Forum*
*Responding to a Unit-based Emergency*
*February 2022*

## Patient Emergency

- Call for HELP
- Activate Emergency/Code Button (on wall behind bed)

**CALL 6-3333**

## Know Where to Find Key Equipment

## Post–Code Responsibilities

UPON REQUEST, EXCHANGE THE CODE CART

APPLY BLUE LOCK

TRANSPORT USED CART TO THE CODE CART EXCHANGE ROOM

ACCESS NEW CODE CART

## Signs of Opioid Overdose may include:

Unresponsive and unconscious
Slow or no breathing
Gurgling or snoring sounds
Blue/grey lips or nails
Nasal Narcan (naloxone) spray should be adminstered immediately

## PCA Role:

Access Equipment:
- Defibrillator/AED
- Code Cart

Other Roles:
- Watch other patients
- Answer call lights
- Assist with ADLs
- Run for Equipment/Supplies

**CODE BLUE**

## Other Tasks:

- Draw / Send labs
- Pick up Blood Products
- Locate IV Pumps

## Rapid Response Team

A team of responders activated for an acute unexpected change in clinical condition

Composed of the patient's primary team and:
Adult
Pediatric
Newborn
Rapid Response Team

**CALL 6-3333**

*For references or more information, contact Sheila Burke RN, MSN*

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## PCA Education Forum
## Responding to a Unit-based Emergency
## February 2022

### Reasons for a Rapid Response:

- Chest Pain
- Bleeding
- Low BP
- Low SPO2


Rapid Response Team

### PCA Role:

Vital signs
ECG
Phlebotomy




Code Stroke

**If you see any of these symptoms Call for HELP**


Is it a stroke? Act F.A.S.T.
FACE droops — ARM weakness — SPEECH difficulty — TIME is critical.

### PCA Role in Code Stroke

Per RN direction:
– stay with the patient and do requested tasks
– VS, blood sugar (low BS can mimic signs of a stroke), phlebotomy, ECG



### Code Stroke Responsibilities

- Prepare patient for an emergency CT scan
- An IV nurse may arrive to put in a STAT IV
- Patient may be transferred to the Neuro ICU depending on CT results


BE PREPARED

### Fire Emergency

Electrical fires are the most common.
Locate fire pull box & extinguisher.
Know your unit's fire safety plan.


CODE RED

### When in Doubt, Get HELP!

Call x *6–3333* for all emergencies

- CODE BLUE
- RAPID RESPONSE
- STROKE
- SURGICAL AIRWAY
- STEMI
- STAT PAGES



**Call 6–3333**


Healthcare Fire Safety
There are **four** essential steps to take if you discover a fire:
R — Rescue anyone in immediate danger of the fire.
A — Alarm Pull the nearest fire alarm and call fire response.
C — Contain fire by closing all doors in the fire area.
E — Extinguish small fires. If not, leave the area and close the door.

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