Code "99" Response Teams

Purpose

To assure an appropriate response to Code "99's" from the Department of Respiratory Care Services.

Scope

Applies to all clinical personnel. All personnel must be current in ACLS.

Procedure

At the beginning of each shift, the supervisor will assign individuals who will be on the two “Code 99" response teams. Only those therapists assigned will respond to the paged “Code 99".

The code team will consist of the following individuals who will carry the specified pagers.

- The Supervisor
- 2 therapists with assignment in general care areas
- The Respiratory Care Assistant
- The therapist assigned to the TDC ICU will only respond to codes in the TDC hospital.

* A therapist should be assigned the task of obtaining the backup code cart and End Tidal CO2 monitor if a Respiratory Care Assistant is not available. Availability of the Respiratory Care Assistant varies day by day.

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Special Considerations

- The primary therapist assigned to SICU should remain in SICU as much as possible for optimal coverage.
- Any therapist not assigned to the Code "99" response team is encouraged to respond to either Pediatric or Adult codes if they are in the immediate vicinity of the called code; but, when the assigned code teams arrives, the therapist should return to their regular assignment.
- The Supervisor is responsible for calling for assistance if more assistance is needed.
- Personnel should be limited. The Team Supervisor is responsible for asking Respiratory Care Services personnel to return to their assignments if they are not needed. Available Respiratory Care Practitioners should relieve staff therapist of the code teams so that they may return to their assigned areas as quickly as possible.
- The pagers designated for the code responders must not be loaned out for broken pagers.

References

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