

# Code Silver / Active Violence Hospital Staff Training

HealthEast Care System Security

# New Code: Code Silver

## *Code Silver Purpose:*

to coordinate proper actions to decrease risk and injuries if someone uses a firearm or weapon at HealthEast.

## *Code Silver defined as:*

- armed person/hostage situation
- Active shooter

# Code Silver

## Actions for staff:

- 1. Evacuate:** safely evacuate if able.
- 2. Shelter in Place /Hide out:** where you are, lock down, and hide.
- 3. Take action:** your last resort when faced with deadly assault, defend yourself against threat.

# **1. Evacuation** for Non-Patient Areas

- Move away from paged Code Silver location, if *escape route* is available. Move towards exit and *cautiously* move away from building
- Help other staff and visitors escape if possible
- Prevent others from entering the area
- ***When you are safe, call 911***

## **2. Hide Out/Shelter in Place**

### Non-patient areas

- If you cannot get out, find an area with a door that locks and/or can be barricaded
- Turn off all lights, *close* blinds and turn off volume on cell phone
- Hide behind a large object
- Stay quiet
- Look for objects that could be used as weapon (for use when faced with an immediate deadly threat)

### **3. Defensive Action against Assault**

- *Look for objects* that could be used as a weapon, when faced with an immediate deadly threat

# *Advanced Planning*

- Familiarize yourself with rooms and closets that can be locked and barricaded
- Think about objects that could be used as a weapon (fire extinguisher, stapler, phone, lamp) if you were threatened with deadly assault

# 1. Evacuation Patient Care Areas

- Upon hearing a “Code Silver” overhead page; patient care employees on patient unit will **Evacuate as appropriate to the situation. DO NOT** go the area specified in “Code Silver”
- The primary response to a Code Silver on a patient care unit will be to Shelter in Place to protect patients, visitors, and staff.



# 1. Shelter in Place Patient Care Areas

- Upon hearing a “Code Silver” overhead page; patient care employees on patient unit will **Shelter in Place (unless the staff member determines that the specific circumstances require evacuation)**. DO NOT go the area specified in “Code Silver”
- Staff member will close all doors and initiate the **Shelter in Place** procedure.

# Close and lock all offices



# Close Doors to Unit



# Patient, Visitor, and Staff Safety: Shelter in Place

- Move visitors, ambulatory patients, and other staff to a lockable/barricadable area, if possible under circumstances.
- Instruct them to stay locked down.
- Close, lock, and/or barricade as many barriers as possible.
- Do not argue with any person(s) that chose to evacuate instead.

# Close the patient room door





# BARRICADE DOOR



Use a chair to prevent door handle from moving to open or,

Help patient and family to the bathroom, if available/possible



# Calm and Reassure the Patient/Visitors





# **Calm and Reassure the Patient/Visitors, cont.**

- Explain this is a hospital security lock-down for active violence and we are taking every precaution for their safety.

Push the bed to barricade inside, if possible



Lock the bed's wheels in place



Lock bathroom door (if possible),  
communicate to your team



# Stay Sheltered in Place

- Continue to calm and reassure patient
- Lock-down process may last multiple hours
- Listen for additional overhead announcements. Follow procedures after announcements.
- Use your Vocera and/or cell phones for emergency medical communication
- If police breach (break into room) put your hands up and follow all orders



# Active Shooter Police Response



# Staff Interaction with Police

- If you encounter police officers, put your hands up. **Do not run to or grab onto the officers. Do not yell or scream.**
- Follow orders by police officers / SWAT team
- Police are there to find and stop shooter / threat, not attend to wounded or injured persons

# Staff Interaction with Police- Put hands up and follow all orders





# Summary

- Know your department's role and procedures for an active shooter / active violence response
- Think through response scenarios for your area
- Practice with your team, hospital, or business unit.

# Questions?

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