

MEMO

To: All Staff & Professional Staff
From: Wayne Taylor, Code Yellow Executive Sponsor
Date: January 31, 2024
RE: Code Yellow Policy Update

The Hospital's Code Yellow (EMER-70) policy has been revised.

Actions required:

1. Read this memo and review the updated [Code Yellow: Missing or Wandering Patient \(EMER-70\)](#) policy to familiarize yourself with important process changes.
2. Managers to ensure that the updated policy is added to their area's emergency binder and that all workers review the attached safety huddles and policy.
3. Areas are to update their sub plans (see templates attached) **by February 29**; please submit a copy to TBRHSC.EmergencyPreparedness@tbh.net

Policy changes:

- Clarified that in **all** instances of a missing patient: a preliminary area search is required; we must attempt to call them using the contact information provided; and we must page them to return to the unit.
- Additional clarification that only if a **high-risk** patient is missing, a Code Yellow-Search is initiated.
- Use of eObservation to report area search results **within 10 minutes** of an overhead announcement versus previous process of notification to Admitting.
- ILS reports must include a rationale for categorizing a patient as high risk when a Search has been called.
- All Code Yellow Searches will desist at the 60 minute mark if not cleared before.
- Incorporated police feedback regarding their preferred contacts.
- External buildings response edited to match other recent policy updates.
- Updated response algorithms.

Process Reminders:

- All departments are required to maintain up-to-date Code Yellow sub-plans.
- Code Yellow – Search is a Hospital-wide response to search for a high-risk patient (age 16 years or older) that is missing from within the Hospital and there is reason to believe they are still on Hospital grounds.
- Code Yellow – Check is initiated to support the identification of a wandering patient (age 16 or older) who appears to be high risk and unaccompanied, found on or nearby Hospital property.

Education:

- Safety Huddles (see attached)
- Code Yellow – Search drills. More details to come!

If you have any questions, please reach out to Mēsha Richard, Lead, Emergency Preparedness (ext. 6552 or mesha.richard@tbh.net)

Thank you,

Wayne Taylor, Code Yellow Executive Sponsor & Director, Cardiovascular, Medicine & Renal Program (ext. 6677 or Wayne.Taylor@tbh.net)