Code White

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**L'HÔPITAL
DU DISTRICT DE
GERALDTON
DISTRICT
HOSPITAL
GERALDTON
OODENA AAKOZIIWIGAMIG**

CODE WHITE

Violent / Behavioral Situation

Written by:		Approved by (sign.):	
Reviewed by:			
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Renewed by:	Savana Admin Marino	Approved on:	
Renewed on:	2024-12-19	Revision Date:	

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INTRODUCTION

A **Code White** (violent/behavioural situation) is initiated to provide all staff with a safe environment and the appropriate support in situations of unexpected violence.

Most violent situations can be prevented. When a critical situation appears imminent, a **Code White** should be initiated.

The following situations may require initiation of a **Code White**:

- Aggressive/violent patient/resident/visitor/staff (where initial attempt to defuse the situation have failed)
- Potential threat of injury (i.e.: weapon)
- Hostage taking

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL STAFF

It is the responsibility of all staff in the affected department to:

- Nurture an environment that prevents violent behaviours.
- Whenever safe to do so, attempt to de-escalate any potential violent situation.
- If unable to control a violent situation, initiate **Code White** procedures.
- Upon hearing **Code White** announcement during regular hours, *Admin On-Call, Department Manager (of affected department), Maintenance Staff and Security (if available)* will proceed to the specific area to provide assistance where required. During off hours (weekends, stat holidays and after 1600 hours), the *Charge Nurse, Admin On-Call, Maintenance Staff and Security* are to proceed to the specific area to provide assistance where required.
- All staff must sign the Emergency Code Participation Record for any Code (drill or actual).
- Participate in the debriefing session as required.

CODE WHITE PROCEDURE

- Notify switchboard to announce a **Code White** over the PA system.
  Any staff can announce a Code White, as needed
- Secure the area by instructing all visitors, patients/residents and others to leave the area immediately.
- Communicate all pertinent information to the appropriate personnel.
- Debriefing session will be held following the completion of **Code White**.

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Switchboard (or individual staff)
When notified of a **CODE WHITE** situation, announce the following over the PA system:

Attention please, attention please
Code White – specific area
Code White – specific area
Code White – specific area

Example:
Attention please, attention please
Code White – Room 303 LTC
Code White – Room 303 LTC
Code White – Room 303 LTC

When directed, announce the following over the PA system:
Attention please, attention please
Code White all clear
Code White all clear
Code White all clear

CODE WHITE LEADER
The most appropriate staff member available will assume the role of **Code White Leader**.

- Provide leadership through direction and guidance to staff during Code White.
- Contact the physician when appropriate, and obtain orders and assistance for the management of the aggressive person.
- Contact the OPP when their assistance is required.
- At the discretion of the Charge Nurse, administration on-call will be notified of the occurrence of the **Code White** and to advise them of the outcome (i.e.: initiate IMS, etc.).
- Facilitate a debriefing session to evaluate the incident.
- Complete a formal [Codes Evaluation Form](#) and forward to the Manager of Support Services (administration).

GENERAL INFORMATION

In the event of a **Code White**:

- Remain calm and avoid any aggressive behaviour in order to reduce the level of agitation.
- Remain alert for opportunities to ensure safety of all occupants.
- Request assistance from other individuals who may be able to de-escalate the situation.