

Sample Nursing Policy & Procedure

EMERGENCY CARE

POLICY:

Residents will receive prompt, efficient medical care for emergency situations within the parameters of any existing advanced directives.

In the instance of a life-threatening condition, emergency medical assistance (911) will be dispatched and the resident will be transported to the nearest acute medical facility for treatment.

With a change in medical condition that is not necessarily life threatening, but does require acute medical care, an ambulance will be dispatched to transport the resident to the appropriate medical facility of choice.

In order to provide the necessary care during a cardiac arrest situation, registered nurses and licensed practical nurses on staff will be competent in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and maintain current certification

RESPONSIBILITY: RNs & LPNs

PROCEDURE:

1. Assess the resident's vital signs.
2. If there are no signs of life, determine the resident's code status and hospitalization status. Initiate emergency care consistent with the resident's wishes.
3. Exercise any emergency measures relevant to the resident's condition such as nasal or mask oxygen, suctioning, seizure precautions and care, post fall precautions, application of pressure to prevent hemorrhage, and/or CPR. **Care will reflect policies for Oxygen Therapy, Nasopharyngeal Suctioning, Seizure Emergency Care, Post Fall Precautions, Hemorrhage Management, and/or CPR.**
4. Designate a nursing staff member to call 911 if emergency transport is necessary. Do not under any circumstances disrupt emergency services. Continue efforts until the emergency personnel arrive.
5. Recruit another nurse, if possible, to collect resident data and document the event.
6. Once the emergency personnel are on the scene:
 - Provide details of the emergency and pertinent data.
 - Provide DNR status and associated documentation.
7. Notify the attending physician. Contact the Medical Director if the attending physician is unavailable. Have the name of the next of kin and his/her contact information since some physicians prefer to notify the family personally.