

Emergency Management and Public Safety at Trillium Health Partners

Trillium Health Partners (THP) must maintain preparedness and the capability to prevent, respond, ensure business continuity, and recover from an event that may occur, while safeguarding the health and safety of workers and patients. Events may occur in the community that will effect day to day operations at THP and we have processes in place to continually provide healthcare and support workers patients and the public THP' s emergency management program is based on the following 4 pillars:

Preparedness – involves actions taken prior to an emergency to ensure an effective response including, but not limited to, education, emergency information, training and exercises, preparing plans and operation centers, and establishing communications systems. This level of preparation is imperative for timely and safe responses to any and all emergency situations.

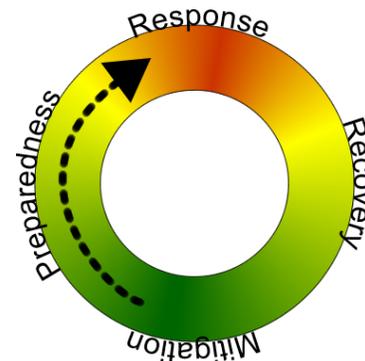
Response - involves actions taken to respond to an imminent or actual emergency. Such actions in the context of an influenza pandemic would include the distribution of vaccine (once available), mobilizing human, financial, and supply resources, and emergency declarations.

Recovery - involves actions taken to recover from the emergency. These activities include such elements as returning to a pre-emergency phase and rebuilding/restocking of supplies initiatives.

Mitigation - involves activities which reduce or eliminate the effects of an emergency. Mitigation assumes that there is risk exposure whether or not an emergency occurs.

THP has multiple emergency code responses to protect our patients, staff, physicians, volunteers, and the general public. THP also conducts exercises to test our procedures and responses to these emergency events on a regular basis. This encourages staff participation in training and provides vital feedback to improve the procedures and safety for all patients, staff, and visitors to THP. All THP employees are required to participate in Emergency Management training on an annual basis.

Should you require assistance during an emergency situation please ask a THP employee for assistance



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 CODE RED	Fire
<p>A fire in a health care environment can be devastating. Monthly fire drills are carried out and fire safety training is undertaken. Staff are aware of THP's fire prevention program and are regularly tested.</p>	
 CODE GREEN	Evacuation
<p>There are multiple reasons why an evacuation may be required within the hospital environment. THP has organizational wide plans and department specific plans for the safe movement and evacuation of patients, staff, and visitors. THP works closely with its community partners and emergency services to ensure safety of those involved.</p>	
 CODE BLACK	Bomb Threat/Suspicious Package
<p>The threat of this type of violence in a healthcare setting is rare but THP ensures that if a response is required, we are ready to respond. THP's management and Security teams work closely with the Police department and our other community partners to ensure a safe and rapid response is managed.</p>	
 CODE YELLOW	Missing Patient
<p>Significant emphasis has been placed on the reduction of Code Yellow incidents. Missing patients are a significant concern to the organization as we provide services to many vulnerable populations and recent improvements in the Code Yellow policy have encouraged improvement.</p>	
 CODE BROWN	Hazardous Spill/Leak
<p>Protection of the environment is another key feature of THP's care. We have specially trained teams to assist in the event of a chemical spill or leak and processes in place to protect the building and the environment from damage.</p>	
 CODE WHITE	Violent Situation
<p>Protecting our patients, staff and visitors is imperative. We have specially trained teams to help with confused and violent individuals. The safety of all individuals involved is THP's prerogative and the use of a multidisciplinary team approach is key to the management of these situations.</p>	
 CODE ORANGE	External Disaster
<p>THP works closely with its community partners and Emergency Services to plan for major disasters. The organization has plans in place to help treat large numbers of patients in a disaster situation while still being able to treat our present inpatients safely.</p>	

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 CODE BLUE	Cardiac Arrest
<p>Code blues are a significant part of hospital life. Outcomes are varied, but it is important to understand that these emergency situations are managed by highly skilled individuals and very rapidly.</p> <p>The introduction of AED's (Automated External Defibrillators) to the Clinical and Administration building is also a new initiative as rapid access to defibrillation is imperative in the chain of survival.</p>	
 CODE PINK	Neonatal Arrest
<p>Emergency situations like Code Pinks are sad but a realistic part of hospital life. With a busy paediatrics unit, birthing services, post-partum unit, special care nursery and an increasingly busy Emergency Room and Urgent Care Centre, our paediatric population is growing.</p> <p>Code Pink related to children below the age of 1 month or a corrected age of 4 weeks old (for pre-term infants)</p> <p>Specialized multidisciplinary teams respond to these emergency situations rapidly</p>	
 CODE PURPLE	Hostage Taking/Abduction
<p>Our policies and procedures are thoroughly reviewed to protect all staff patients and visitors should an incident like this occur. Safety of the individuals involved is our primary concern.</p>	
 CODE GREY	Internal Disaster
<p>Our policies provide information to staff on how to manage these situations. (Advising the staff to review department specific emergency response plans and emergency contingency plans.) There are also plans available for maintenance of our systems to assist staff and patients when there is time to plan work.</p>	

For further information on Trillium Health Partners Emergency Management Program, please contact

Communications, Patient and Community Relations at 905-848-7580 or publicrelations@thc.on.ca at both sites.