



CORRECTIONS MEDICINE

Emergency Response

ACA Standard: 4 ALDF – 4D – 08

Effective: November 2012

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Reviewed: Aug 2014, April 2017, May 2018

Policy Number:
CM – 07.1

- I. **PURPOSE:** To standardize the response to medical emergencies in the Buzz Westfall Justice Center.
- II. **POLICY:** Saint Louis County Department of Public Health Corrections Medicine staff shall promptly respond to all medical emergencies inside the secure perimeter of the facility.
- III. **RESPONSIBILITY:** All persons working in Corrections Medicine are responsible for the content of and adherence to this policy.
- IV. **ACRONYMS:**
 - **EKG** – Electrocardiography
 - **LPN** – Licensed Practical Nurse
 - **MAR** – Medication Administration Record
- V. **PROCEDURES:**
 1. When a medical emergency is called, Corrections Medicine nursing staff are required to respond to the situation, per the Corrections Medicine Code Management Guidelines.
 2. Crash carts and automatic external defibrillator (AED) emergency equipment shall be taken to the scene by Corrections Medicine staff.
 3. A registered nurse (RN) will remain on the scene with a crash cart until a final disposition or decision is made. The RN is responsible to make sure that the code sheet is complete, all signatures are on the code sheet, the appropriate individuals have been notified, and there is documentation in the electronic medical record (EMR) of the event.
 4. For emergent and urgent situations the appropriate provider is to be contacted, given a description of the event following the standardized documentation format (SBAR) format and a disposition decision obtained for the patient. For non-urgent medical issues a message will be sent to the provider through patient message.
 5. If the RN leading the code determines that the patient’s condition is life-threatening and requires emergent care, the RN will inform the Department of Justice Services (DJS) Watch Commander on-duty/on-scene to call 9-1-1, identifying the nature of the call to report to emergency medical services (EMS) dispatch. The medical provider on-call will be notified as soon as feasible.
 6. Once a disposition is determined, the RN shall ensure the appropriate procedures are followed for patients needing hospitalization, infirmary level care or can remain in the housing unit.

7. Documentation of the event shall be recorded in the EMR. Narrative documentation should follow the SBAR format. Any questions in documentation, reference the Code Management Guidelines.

VI. **REFERENCES:**

Standard 4-ALDF-4D-08: Performance-Based for Adult Local Detention Facilities; 4th Ed; American Correctional Association; June 2004

Department of Justice Services Policy 1303 “Emergency Medical Services”

Department of Justice Services Policy 1309 “Mental Health Services”

Department of Justice Services Policy 1904 “Medical Emergency Response”