

Novant Health Emergency Codes

CODE	PLAN	ACTION	
Code RED	Fire Threat Activation RACE and PASS	Close doors and clear hallways if needed. Evacuate if appropriate or as directed.	 RED
Code BLUE	Medical Emergency	One code for adult and peds activation. Perform CPR if needed as trained. Code Team and cart responds.	 BLUE
Code TRIAGE	External Disaster Activation	Anticipating a potential activation of a hospital-wide response to a mass casualty event.	 TRIAGE
Code BLACK	Utility Failure	One code for any utility outage or failure such as electrical power, natural gas, water, etc. Follow appropriate department process.	 BLACK
Code ORANGE	Universal Hazardous Materials Response	Initial response is the same to all possible contaminants. Response team to staging areas, lockdown procedures implemented. Can be activated in conjunction with Code Triage.	 ORANGE
Code PINK	Infant/Child Abduction	Can specify age, gender, etc. for specifics. Monitor all exits and stairwells. Report suspicious people.	 PINK
Code GRAY	Security Alert	Immediate security assistance needed.	 GRAY
Code SILVER	Hostage Situation Weapon Involved	Volatile security situation. Stay in assigned area if safe. Report suspicious persons.	 SILVER
Code ZERO <small>NEW CODE: January 2009</small>	Active Shooter	Protect patients. Close, lock and/or barricade doors. Take cover.	 ZERO
Code YELLOW	Bomb Threat	Report to work area and wait for search assignment. Report any suspicious activity or packages.	 YELLOW
Code OUTLOOK	Not Covered by Other Plans	This is a secondary method of communicating to leaders via e-mail of Joint Commission or other regulatory agency on campus or as an adjunct to emergency situations.	
Tornado Warning, Watch, Flood, Hurricane, Snow, Ice, etc.	Use current National Weather Service Guidelines	Patients and visitors don't need to be shielded from this information and will probably hear and see it on patient televisions anyway.	

Novant Health Emergency Codes



Fire Activation



Medical Emergency



External Disaster



Utility/IT Outage



Universal Hazardous Materials Response



Infant-Child Abduction



Security Alert



Hostage Situation
Weapon Involved



Active Shooter



Bomb Threat

Fire Emergencies

R.A.C.E. – Code Red

In case of fire, smoke or smell of burning:

Rescue or remove anyone from immediate danger to nearest safe area.

Alert or sound an alarm to warn others.

Contain the fire. Close all doors and remove equipment from hallways.

Extinguish the fire using proper fire extinguisher or evacuate.

P.A.S.S.

Pull the pin

Aim the extinguisher

Squeeze the trigger

Sweep side to side

WHY USE EMERGENCY CODES? Novant Health uses a standard set of emergency codes established by the North Carolina Hospital Association. Standardized emergency codes help facilitate communication among statewide emergency responders and North Carolina hospitals. Standardized terminology enables emergency responders, clinicians and healthcare personnel across the state to provide appropriate aid and resources to other hospitals and/or emergency agencies in the event of a state or regional disaster, or emergency situation.



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