

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP): Emergency Resuscitation and Code Response Procedures

Purpose

This SOP details the **emergency resuscitation and code response procedures**, including immediate response actions to cardiac and respiratory arrest, activation of emergency code alerts, roles and responsibilities of response team members, use of resuscitation equipment such as defibrillators, effective communication during emergencies, and post-event documentation and review. Its goal is to ensure rapid, coordinated, and effective intervention to improve patient outcomes during critical emergencies.

Scope

This SOP applies to all healthcare staff involved in emergency code response and resuscitation procedures within the facility.

Procedure

1. Immediate Response Actions

1. Assess the scene for safety.
2. Confirm unresponsiveness and absence of normal breathing/pulse.
3. Call for help and activate emergency code (e.g., "Code Blue").
4. Begin Basic Life Support (BLS): Chest compressions and rescue breaths as per current guidelines.
5. Apply automated external defibrillator (AED) or manual defibrillator as soon as available.
6. Follow Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) protocols upon arrival of the response team.

2. Activation of Emergency Code Alert

1. Immediately notify facility switchboard or emergency response number.
2. State location, nature of emergency, and need for resuscitation/code response team.
3. Ensure clear access routes for code team and equipment.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

Team Member	Role/Responsibility
First Responder	Initiate BLS, summon help, provide patient information.
Code Leader (Physician/Nurse)	Directs resuscitation efforts, assigns tasks, makes clinical decisions.
Compressor	Performs chest compressions according to protocol.
Airway Manager	Provides ventilations, maintains airway patency.
Defibrillator Operator	Operates AED/defibrillator, attaches pads, delivers shocks under direction.
Recorder	Documents all events, interventions, times, and medications administered.
Runner	Retrieves additional equipment, medications, assists as required.

4. Use of Resuscitation Equipment

- Ensure all code carts, defibrillators, and airway supplies are present and regularly checked.
- Use AED/manual defibrillator according to manufacturer and clinical guidelines.
- Ensure suction, oxygen, and airway adjuncts are readily available and functional.

5. Communication

- Use clear, closed-loop communication to confirm instructions and actions.
- Announce critical interventions and changes in patient status.
- Ensure effective handoff of care if patient transfers to another team/area.

6. Post-Event Documentation and Review

- Complete code documentation within the patient's health record and in the facility code log.
- Participate in debriefing and root cause analysis to identify improvements.
- Restock and check all used emergency equipment.

References

- American Heart Association (AHA) Guidelines for CPR and ECC
- Facility Emergency and Disaster Response Policies

Revision History

Date	Revision	Description	Approved By
2024-06-30	1.0	Original SOP release	[Name/Title]