

CODE SILVER



ACTIVE SHOOTER

The profile of an active shooter may include the following:



- They use firearms
- May or may not have a pattern of selected victims
- Shooting may be random or systematic
- No regard for their own life – may be planning to die
- No criminal objective (e.g. robbery) other than individual or mass murder

Description of a Active Shooting situation:



- Unpredictable and evolves very quickly
- Immediate deployment of law enforcement is required to stop the shooting and mitigate harm
- Often over quickly within 10-15 minutes

Code Silver Response

Team:



- ⌘ A pre-designated security response team consisting of staff trained in the response to violent situations. The Code Silver Response Team Leader will be the highest ranking security office on duty at the time.

PROCEDURES:



- The hospital will take all reasonable measures to minimize the negative impacts of a situation involving a person with a weapon; with or without a hostage situation.
- The Code Silver Response Team will immediately report and secure the area of the incident. All other staffs are to stay away from the area of the incident. Every effort will be made to evacuate the affected area and secure it from unnecessary traffic.
- If staff or physicians MUST enter or leave the building or a patient has an emergency that
- requires movement of the patient or personnel (e.g., Code Blue, the Emergency Department staff), law enforcement must be notified. If appropriate, an armed escort should be provided.
- The National Incident Management System will be initiated. The House Supervisor or Administrator-on-Call (AOC) will assume the role of Incident Commander (IC) until the designated IC arrives.

RESPONSE, Initial:



- **Staff that encounters a person brandishing a weapon should:**
 - Remain calm
 - Seek cover
 - Go into the closest room
 - Lock the door
 - Warn others in the unit of the situation.
 - Shout out to warn other staff to take cover
 - Dial 0 (or ask someone) notify operator of:
 - Location (if you cannot speak, leave phone open for operator to hear)
 - Abductor(s) description
 - Type of weapon, demands
 - Known victims or hostages

RESPONSE, Initial:



The facility operator/dispatcher will:

- Immediately notify in-house staff by overhead paging once every 30 seconds for a total of three (3) pages – ‘*Emergency Code Silver*’ followed by the department and room number (if known).
- Notify local authorities by calling 911 and providing as many details as possible.
- Notify the Administrator on Call who will serve as the Incident Commander upon arrival.

RESPONSE when Code Silver is called:



In non-patient & patient care areas: Staff members in the area of the incident:

- Do not panic and stay alert
- Only move wounded victims if it is safe to do so
- Do not stop to help the deceased
- Evacuate if possible; leave belongings behind.
- If unable to evacuate, hide - seek cover/protection.
 - Identify an escape plan.
 - Place furniture to door to block door
 - Be quiet; turn off any sources of noise (TV, cell phones)
- Warn others of the situation.
- Do not allow unauthorized individuals in the department.
- Be prepared for additional Codes (e.g. Fire, Evacuation).
- Take direction from Code Silver Response Team and/or authorities
- Be prepared to provide a statement to authorities and Incident Commander

RESPONSE when Code Silver is called:



In patient care areas: Staff members in the area of the incident:

- Ask patients to close doors; lock themselves in the bathroom; do not come out.

RESPONSE when Code Silver is called:



Staff in areas distant from the area specified area should:

- Stay away from the area specified in Code Silver. This is an extremely dangerous and sensitive situation that should only be handled by trained authorities.
- Explain the situation to the patients (use intercom; followed by in person if time permits)
- Ask ambulatory patients to close and lock their doors.
- Close and lock all doors to the units/ departments.
- Take cover behind locked doors and/or behind/under large furniture if possible.
- Use furniture to block the door.
- Provide assistance as requested.

RESPONSE when Code Silver is called:



The Code Silver Response Team will attempt to:

- Identify and respond to the incident location
- Clear the area of all possible bystanders and do not allow anyone to enter or exit until the situation has been resolved.
- Gather intelligence from witnesses through interviewing witnesses to determine the exact location, number and identities of the hostages, and the number of perpetrators/abductors, including how they are armed, their apparent motivation and any demands made.
- Coordinate response with law enforcement
- Establish a perimeter
- Maintain communications with the Incident Commander.
- Take direction from the law enforcement, and Incident Commander

Law Enforcement, upon arrival will:



- Assist University Police in managing the situation.
- Not stop to assist victims – they are focused on stopping the assailant.
- Request and expect cooperation and assistance from the staff.
- Be provided a copy of the facility's layout, indicating rooms, exits, windows and utility access.
- Need security access badges in order to search all areas if needed (official police badges will suffice)

Law enforcement officials may:



- Be armed with rifles, shotguns, handguns
- Wear regular patrol uniforms or external bulletproof vests, helmets and other equipment
- May use pepper spray or tear gas to control the situation
- May shout out commands, push individuals away from danger

Law enforcement officials may:



- Expect staff to:
 - Follow their instructions
 - Put down any items in your hands (e.g. bags, jackets)
 - Immediately raise hands, spread fingers upon request
 - Keep hands visible at all times
 - Avoid making quick movements toward officers such as hold onto them for safety
 - Not stop them to ask questions, directions to evacuate, etc.

The End

