

CODE PINK & CODE PURPLE

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Safety Assistant

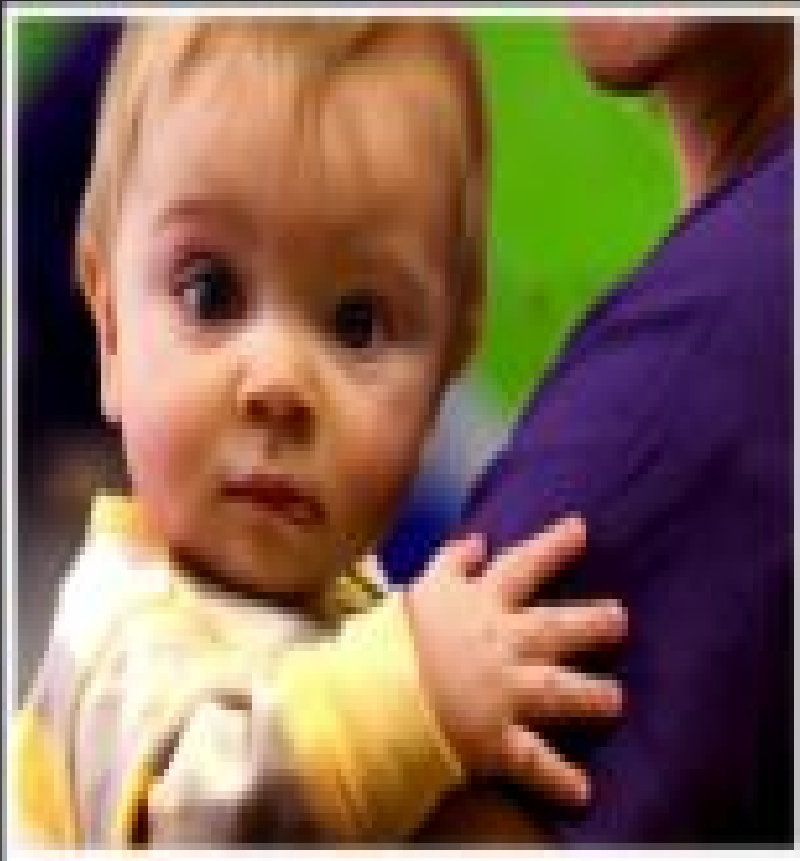
*ValleyCare Office of Environmental
Health & Safety*



Olive View-UCLA
MEDICAL CENTER

CODE PINK

CODE PURPLE



**INFANT
CHILD /
ADOLESCENT
ABDUCTION
POLICY**



Policy

- To ensure timely and appropriate notification and actions of all *ValleyCare* personnel and outside agencies when an infant a child or an adolescent has been abducted,
- To expedite locating and reuniting the infant/child/adolescent with the family.

Purpose: ID and Notification

- To identify a person attempting to abduct an infant, a child/adolescent from a *ValleyCare* facility.
 - To ensure all hospital personnel and outside agencies are notified appropriately, with the goal being to locate and reunite the infant, the child/adolescent with the family as quickly as possible.
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Definitions



What is Infant, **Child** and
Adolescent Abduction?

Infant Abduction

- Birth to 12 Months of Age
- The unlawful seizure of an infant, whose health care and safety has been entrusted to the personnel of a *ValleyCare* facility or who is visiting a *ValleyCare* facility.



Child/Adolescent Abduction

- 1-17 yrs of age
- The unlawful seizure of a child or an adolescent whose health care and safety has been entrusted to the personnel of *ValleyCare* facility or who is visiting a *ValleyCare* facility.

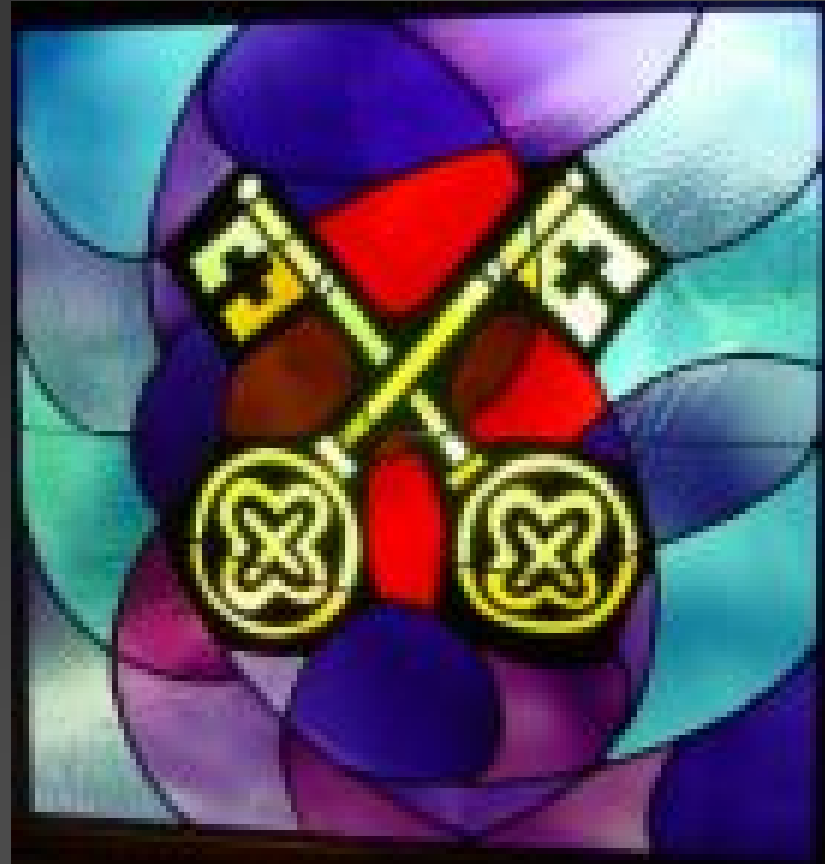


My Child Infant Protection System

- An electronic security system, which, in conjunction with staff diligence, creates a secure perimeter to deter abductions.
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KEY WORDS

- CODE PURPLE
- CODE PINK
the policy
- Abduction
- Kidnapper/abductor
- Infant protection system
- Nurse Administrator



Kidnapper Profile

- The typical abductor is a
 - female between 15 and 44
 - often overweight
 - suffering from low self-esteem
 - she has lost a baby or is incapable of having one



Kidnapper Profile



- She would be:
 - Carrying an infant
 - Carrying a bag, large enough to hold an infant
 - Covering the infant with her coat or baby blanket
 - May be in a nurse uniform or scrubs carrying an infant
 - May have visited the ward or the nursery, asking detailed questions about hospital procedures and floor layout
 - Frequently uses a fire exit stairwell for her escape.
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Who is a possible abductor then?

- In most cases, it is one of the parents.
 - The abductors of all 12 children, whose pictures are posted on LA Co District Attorney's Office website are either the father or the mother of the child.
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PROCEDURE

- IF there is a SUSPICION of an infant, child/adolescent abduction.
 - The following actions will occur simultaneously.
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1.SUSPECTED ABDUCTION



A.

Any suspected Infant, child/adolescent abduction from *ValleyCare* OVMC will be immediately called by the Operator as a

CODE PINK

or

CODE PURPLE

B. When Code Pink/Purple is Announced

The following departments are to respond to their assigned exits for proper coverage:

- Bed control
 - County Police
 - ER
 - Dietary
 - Information Systems
 - Medical Records
 - Nuclear Medicine
 - Nursing
 - Pathology
 - Psychiatric emergency
-

C. All non-identified departments

- are to assist the identified departments by responding to the nearest
 - exit doors
 - stairwell doors
 - and elevator doors in their area.
-

2. Affected Unit Procedures



A. Dial 111

➔ instruct the Hospital Operator to call a
CODE PINK/CODE PURPLE

➔ Inform the Operator of the
*location of the abduction

*the sex and age of the child/adolescent
and any other identifying features, which may help
locate the abducted infant, child/adolescent

HOSPITAL OPERATOR



- Will immediately notify via dispatch
- County Police
- Hospital Administration
- Nursing Administration to initiate a quick response from all personnel to activate the CODE PINK OR CODE PURPLE mode

HOSPITAL OPERATOR

- Will announce a CODE PURPLE
CODE PINK
3 TIMES
INCLUDING
 - *the location of abduction,
 - *the age
 - *the sex

And any other information that will help identify the abducted child or adolescent.



**B. If Abduction occurs in
Inpatient OB Unit, NICU or
Inpatient PEDIATRIC Unit,**

- A designated staff member will click the
“**LOCATOR**” icon on the
MY CHILD INFANT PROTECTION SYSTEM
to determine location of all tagged infants,
children and adolescents.

C.

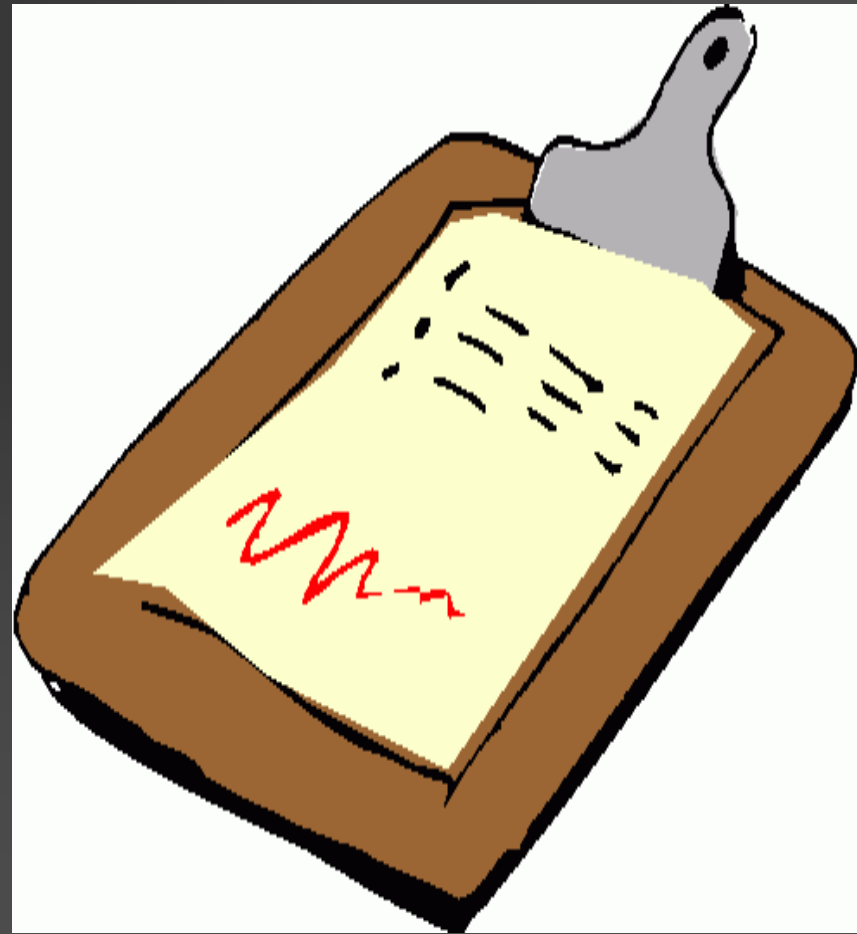
- Once the abduction has been confirmed,
 - The Nurse Manager of the unit and the attending MD will notify the parents.
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D. The Nurse assigned to the mother and infant or child/adolescent

- will continue to accompany the parents at all times.
 - The parents will be moved to a private room off the OB or Pediatric floor.
 - The infant's, child/adolescent's belongings are part of the crime scene and must be protected throughout the investigation.
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E. Records / Charts

- Mother and infant
or
- Child/Adolescent's
records/charts
must be secured.



F.

- Immediately report any suspicious bundles or bags to County Police.



G.

- The nursing staff on the affected unit will be told of the occurrence.
 - All staff on duty where the abduction occurred will remain in the unit until the authorities complete proper questioning.
-

H.

- Immediately search the entire Unit and perform a head count on all infants, children/adolescents.
- NO unauthorized person will be permitted to enter the effected ward during a

CODE PINK / CODE PURPLE

1.

- All staff are requested to refrain from discussing the incident with anyone other than the authorities.
- Refer all questions by the MEDIA or unidentified individuals to the ANO.



J.

- When the Nurse Administrator clears CODE PURPLE / CODE PINK all staff are to return to their normal work duties.
- “All clear CODE PURPLE/ CODE PINK” will be announced 3 TIMES.



K.

- All information shall be documented on the Progress Notes.
- A debriefing will occur after the event.



3. GENERAL STAFF PROCEDURE

- A. The flow of traffic from all exits of the hospital or health center will be monitored via a systematic fan out, using all available employees.
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B.



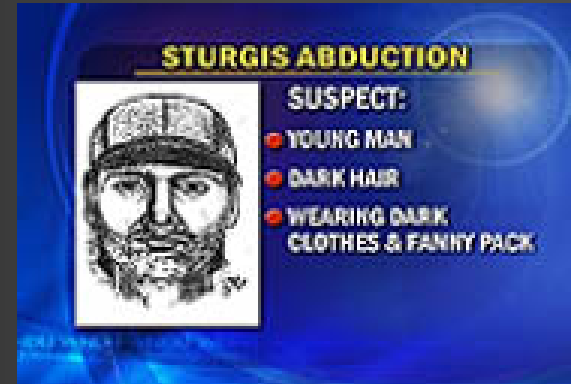
- ALL personnel are to IMMEDIATELY STOP ALL NON-CRITICAL WORK and cover all
 - interior stairwell doors,
 - elevator areas,
 - and doors that exit the area they are in.

Staff who are not in their own area are to go to the nearest exit.

C.

- If a person is seen with a child/adolescent that matches the description of the abducted, ask permission to speak to the child.
 - Employees should not take any action that jeopardizes the safety and/or well-being of themselves or others.
-

D.



- If the person refuses or runs, do NOT attempt to apprehend them. Observe and note their physical description:

- Clothing worn
- Any distinguishing characteristics
- Whether alone or with someone

(if w/ someone, note all the above info for other person(s))

Take note of their exit route and how they left the grounds.

If possible, note the make and color of the car and Lic. Pl. #.

E.



- Immediately dial 111 to report information regarding the suspect to the Operator, who will convey information to County Police.



F.



- County Police will notify outside law enforcement of the abduction.



G.



- All staff are requested to refrain from discussing this incident with anyone other than the authorities.
- Refer all questions by media or any stranger to the ANO.

