

# **EMERGENCY SITUATION / CODE BLACK**



#### **OVERVIEW**

**THIS DOCUMENT** This guidance statement provides a framework for developing

procedures relating to the role of perioperative staff in the event of An Emergency situation / Code Black within the Hospital / Unit

**PURPOSE** To assist in the development of contingency planning

**SCOPE** All perioperative staff

### **GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

The multidisciplinary health care team must be prepared for emergency / code black situations by ensuring that contingency plans are developed, current and available to the perioperative team.

Emergency / Code Black is a situation requiring police attendance due to its threatening the safety of one or more persons.

Emergency / Code Black situations may include, but not limited to, Firearm, Child abduction, CBRE (chemical, biological, radiation, explosive device or substance), offensive weapon, and can be identified or suspected to be occurring.

Topics for consideration in the development of procedures include:

**Ethical considerations** 

**Reduction and Readiness** 

Response

Recovery

### Supporting evidence

- Australia-New Zealand Counter-Terrorism Committee. Australia-New Zealand Counter-Terrorism Committee Active Shooter Guidelines for Places of Mass Gatherings 2013.
  Retrieved from: https://www.nationalsecurity.gov.au/Media-and-publications/Publications/Documents/active-armed-offender-guidelines-crowded-places.pdf
- Ballarat Base Hospital. Emergency Procedures. Retrieved from:
   https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/Public+Content/SA+Health+Internet/Clinical+resources/Safety+and+quality/Safety+Learning+System/Security+incidents+in+Safety+Learning+System
- University of New South Wales. Emergency Procedures. Retrieved from: https://www.estate.unsw.edu.au/sites/default/files/documents/UNSW%20Emergency% 20Procedures.pdf
- Healthcare and Public Health (HPH) Sector Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP). Active shooter planning and response (2017). Retrieved from: https://www.fbi.gov/filerepository/active\_shooter\_planning\_and\_response\_in\_a\_healthcare\_setting.pdf/view

Section: Perioperative Nurses College Issued by: Professional Practice Committee Date first issued : March 2021 Title: Emergency Situation / Code Black Authorised by: National Committee Date of next review: March 2024



# **EMERGENCY SITUATION / CODE BLACK**



- International Association for Healthcare Security and Safety (IAHSS). Security Design Guidelines for Healthcare Facilities 3rd Edition. Retrieved from:www.iahss.org/page/designguidelines
- New York Presbyterian Hospital. Active Shooter. Retrieved from: https://www.nyp.org/safety/security/security-situations/active-shooter
- New Zealand Government National Emergency Management Agency, (2019),
   Coordinated Incident Management System (CIMS), (3rd ed). Retrieved from:
   <a href="https://www.civildefence.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/CIMS-3rd-edition-FINAL-Aug-2019.pdf">https://www.civildefence.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/CIMS-3rd-edition-FINAL-Aug-2019.pdf</a>
- Northwestern University. Safety Guidelines for Active Shooter Situations on Campus. Retrieved from: https://www.northwestern.edu/up/your-safety/emergency-procedures/active-violence.html
- State Government of Victoria. Deter, Detect, Manage: A guide to better management of weapons in health services. Retrieved from: www2.health.vic.gov.au/.../deter-detectmanage
- United States of America. Department of Health and Human Services, etal (2014).
   Incorporating Active Shooter Incident Planning into Health Care Facility Emergency Operations Plans. Retrieved from:
   http://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/planning/Documents/active-shooter-planning-eop2014.pdf
- United States of America Department of Homeland Security. Active Shooter: How to Respond. Retrieved from: https://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/active shooter booklet.pdf
- Western Australia Police. What to do in an Active Shooter or Armed Offender Incident. Retrieved from: https://www.police.wa.gov.au/
- Yale University. Active Shooter/Weapon. Retrieved from: https://emergency.yale.edu/be-prepared/active-shooterweapon.
- National Health Service (NHS) Foundation Trust Southern Health. (2020). Missing infant / child and potential abduction policy. Retrieved from: http://www.southernhealth.nhs.uk/
- Melmer, P., Carlin, M., Castater, C. A., Koganti, D., Hurst, S. D., Tracy, B. M., ... & Sciarretta, J. D. (2019). Mass casualty shootings and emergency preparedness: a multidisciplinary approach for an unpredictable event. Journal of Multidisciplinary Healthcare, 12, 1013.

### Legislation

- Crimes Act 1961
- Arms Act 1983
- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015

# **Standards**

Australian Standard® AS4083 2010 Planning for emergencies—Health care facilities

Section: Perioperative Nurses College Issued by: Professional Practice Committee Date first issued: March 2021 Title: Emergency Situation / Code Black Authorised by: National Committee Date of next review: March 2024