

## CRASH CARTS

### Purpose:

To assure availability of all drugs, equipment, and supplies necessary to initiate advanced life-support measures and assure uniformity of emergency carts in the General of Radiology.

### Policy:

1. Crash carts shall be provided on an “exchange basis” by Central Medical Supply (CMS) to all patient care areas to initiate emergency life-support measures.
2. Central Medical Supply shall be responsible for:
  - a. Delivering a restocked crash cart to the unit immediately upon verification of need.
  - b. Verifying contents of cart with **licensed personnel** in patient care area.
  - c. Co-signing central medical supply crash cart log noting number and expiration date.
  - d. Placing numbered lock on cart and writing earliest expiration date on lock.
  - e. Verifying the presence and expiration date of all items on carts at least every three (3) months.
3. Designated Licensed personnel in the patient care area shall be responsible for:
  - a. Notifying CMS after crash cart has been used or lock has been broken.
  - b. Verifying contents of new crash cart with CMS personnel.
  - c. Co-signing central medical supply crash cart log.
  - d. Checking external contents of cart.
4. Pharmacy shall be responsible for maintaining the red drug drawer on all crash carts. The earliest expiration date of any medication shall be documented on the front lid of the drawer.
5. **ADULT CRASH CARTS (BLUE)** are maintained in these locations within the Diagnostic Radiology Section:
  - X-Ray in Room # 9 (D2-8)**
  - ACC Radiology**
  - Nuclear Medicine**
  - Special Procedures**
  - Ultrasound (includes Breast Imaging)**

**Radiation Oncology**  
**CT ER**  
**CT 2<sup>nd</sup> floor**  
**CT FWCC**  
**MRI**

The fourth drawer of each adult crash cart (**BLUE**) shall only contain supplies and equipment to initiate pediatric life-support measures. Upon initiation of pediatric life-support measures Central Medical Supply shall be notified to deliver a pediatric crash cart (**RED**) to the patient care area.

- a. The crash cart lock shall be checked and verification appropriately documented once every 24 hours.
- b. The defibrillator and cardiac monitor shall be checked and appropriately documented for workability on both battery and electrical current once every 24 hours.
- c. All external contents of cart shall be checked and verification documented once every 24 hours.

6. **PEDIATRIC CRASH CARTS (RED)** are maintained in these 1 locations:

**X-Ray in room #8 D2-11**  
**CT ER**

- a. Both of the crash cart locks shall be checked and verification appropriately documented once every 24 hours.
- b. The **defibrillator and cardiac monitor** located on the **Adult Crash Cart** shall be relocated and used in the initiation of **Pediatric life-support measures**. Pediatric defibrillator paddles are located on the top of Adult Crash Cart adjacent to the defibrillator. The availability of the Pediatric paddles shall be verified once every 24 hours.

7. All crash carts will be checked as per the following:

- a. The functionality of the defibrillator and cardiac monitor shall be checked and appropriately documented for performance on both battery and electrical current once every 24 hours. The defibrillator will remain plugged into an electrical outlet at all times, except during battery testing. The Biomedical Department will be contacted immediately when a defibrillator problem is detected.
- b. All external contents of cart shall be checked and verification documented ever 24 hours.

8. Crash carts will be kept locked at all times when not in use. A **VARIANCE REPORT** shall be completed after any **unauthorized** entry into the cart or when routine

LSUHSC-Shreveport  
Radiology Department  
Proc 4.14

supplies are missing from the cart. Central Medical  
Supply shall be notified so that the cart may be exchanged.

written: 04/05/96  
reviewed: 05/01/98  
revised: 10/29/03  
reviewed: 01/17/01  
revised: 02/09/04  
Revised: 12/3/2006  
Reviewed: 08/09