

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

MEDICAL GAS OUTAGE / CONTAMINATED

Purpose: To ensure the hospital can provide a continuous supply of medical gases (oxygen and compressed air) to patients.

Policy:

- I. If the medical gas alarm sounds, nursing staff will notify Physical Plant. After hours and on weekends notify Switchboard who will notify the Physical Plant employee on site.
- II. Upon notification of a medical gas alarm, Physical Plant will immediately go to the appropriate cylinder bank and inspect the back-up system and ensure the back-up system is operative. Physical Plant will notify Hospital Administration of the outage. After hours Switchboard will notify Administrator on call of the outage.
- III. If a medical gas outage should occur, there will be back ups for nitrogen, nitrous oxide, oxygen and air.
- IV. If it appears the system may be contaminated, shut down the system. **DO NOT USE BACK-UP SYSTEM** as the lines are potentially contaminated.
- V. If the system is shut down, cylinders will be used to provide medical gas to patients.
- VI. Materials Management will continuously monitor the cylinder inventory to assure we have an adequate supply to meet patient needs. Physical Plant will monitor the in-use of cylinder supply and change out as needed.
- VII. Once repair to the medical gas system is complete and certified, the central system will be reinstated.
- VIII. Physical Plant will notify Hospital Administration when system is ready.