SHOCK TREATMENT AND RESUSCITATION TEAM
(START)

Purpose:

To provide guidelines for rapid assessment of patients with deteriorating conditions prior to cardio/pulmonary arrest.

1. Rapid Response teams (RRT) bring critical care expertise to the patient bedside to prevent unnecessary deaths.

2. The team provides communication among the primary healthcare team to improve patient outcomes.

3. In short, the role of the START team will be:
   a. assess
   b. stabilize
   c. assist with communication
   d. educate and support
   e. assist with transfer, if necessary

4. START (Shock Treatment and Resuscitation Team) encompasses both inpatient and outpatient settings. There are five teams that are incorporated into START. Each team is developed to be best suited for the patient environment.
   a. START: In – Patient
   b. STARTed: Emergency Department
   c. STARTped: Pediatric
   d. STARTacd: Outpatient clinics
   e. STARTfwcc: Feist Weiller Cancer Center

5. Each area maintains nursing specific policies for the processes in each area.

6. Data is disseminated monthly among key stakeholders assessing number of calls, length of calls, total number of codes and codes outside the ICU.

7. Special Care Committee oversees START activities.
Hospital Policy Manual
Policy number: 5.45
Effective Date: 4/01/13

Administrator

3/20/13
Date

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