

# SECTION 11.5

## CODE PURPLE: CHILD ABDUCTION

### PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED IN THE EVENT A CHILD ABDUCTION OCCURS AT LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY HEALTH

#### **RESPONSE**

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Actual Child Abduction</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. When a child is suspected or confirmed to be missing the employee notifies Security Control Center by calling 911.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The employee provides as much information or details as requested by security.</li><li>• This does not delay the response time.</li></ul></li></ol>   |
| <b>Unit/Department</b>        | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The employee makes a rapid assessment of the situation, observing events and people in the area.</li><li>2. The employee alerts all staff of the “Code Purple”.</li><li>3. The Department head or designee ensures that staff cover all exits and stairwells on the units and assists with unit search</li><li>4. The Department head or designee ensures that staff cover all exits and stairwells checking stairwells and observing the events and people in the area.</li><li>5. The Department head or designee assigns someone to search the patient rooms, closets, bathrooms, utility rooms, etc...</li><li>6.</li></ol> |

contents.

6. If a person exits the facility with a child or has a large bag and refuses to stop or allow bags to be inspected, the responder should note the physical description of the suspicious individual, their direction of travel and immediately report any observations to security control at 911.

**Security Control Center/Security Officer**

1. Immediately notifies security officers to conduct search.
2. Makes overhead announcement initiating a Code Purple and the floor from which the child is missing (i.e. Code Purple, Fifth Floor).
3. Sends out group page to children's hospital administrators/managers
4. Notifies local law enforcement if missing child is confirmed.
5. Initiates group page to administrators and managers.
6. Dispatches Security Department representative to unit to meet with reporting employee when child is confirmed missing.
7. Completes written report.
8. Establishes command post.

**Administrative Supervisor/Nurse Manager/Designee**

Notifies parents/guardian, attending physician, blood bank and clinical lab to retain specimens for DNA identification, if needed when child is confirmed missing.

**Other Hospital Staff and University Staff/Students**

1. Inform parents/visitors that a child abduction is in effect and they should stay with their infant until the "Code Purple Clear" is announced.
2. Reports persons exhibiting suspicious behavior to the Security department at extension 911.

**Public and Media**

- 1.

## **Considerations**

- announced house-wide for a child greater than 12 months of age. As more information is given to Security, up-dated announcements will be made.
2. Quarterly infant drills are conducted to practice and assess response, process and procedures in the event of a child abduction in the health care settings.
    - The assigned observer critiques these drills.
    - Security and the Code Pink, Purple, and Green Committee evaluate the findings from these drills.
    - Opportunities for improvement are identified and implemented by assigned members.

## **RECOVERY**

### **Process upon Recovery**

1. According to LLUH Security Operating Policy S-6, when a child is located/returned the following events occur:
  - The charge nurse/social worker notifies the child's physician to immediately evaluate physical status.
  - The charge nurse/social worker immediately notifies the parent/guardian and the security control center.
  - The security control center immediately notifies all the security officers, group page to administrators and managers, announces Code Purple all clear.
  - The administrative supervisor/Executive Director/Department Head Nurse/Nurse Manager immediately notifies Blood Bank and Clinical Lab.
  - The Physician writes order to admit child to appropriate unit for care.
  - The Nurse Manager/Spiritual Care Clinicians provide an opportunity for debriefing within 24 to 48 hours post incident for staff members.
2. Security and the Code Pink, Purple, and Green Committee evaluate the abduction event for process improvement opportunities.