Rapid Response Team

The Rapid Response Team is a hospital program designed to save patient lives before the patient requires a “Code Blue” response.

The team is made up of a critical care nurse, a respiratory therapist, the bedside nurse, and an intensivist or surgeon. They are available 24 hours a day.

The team will come within 15 minutes in response to your call, if you dial 22222 and tell the operator where you need them. If your patient is pulseless or not breathing, call a Code Blue using the “Code Blue” button or dialing 33333 in the hospital.

The guidelines listed below, known as Clinical Triggers, are designed to help you know when to call for the Rapid Response Team.

Clinical Triggers for the Rapid Response Team

- Unanticipated acute changes in the patient’s Heart Rate
  HR less than 40 or greater than 130, or patient symptomatic

- Unanticipated acute changes in the patient’s Blood Pressure
  Systolic BP less than 90mmHg or patient symptomatic

- Unanticipated acute changes in the patient’s Respirations
  Respiratory rate less than 8 or greater than 28 or respiratory distress

- Persistent ↓ in Oxygen Saturation
  Less than 90% with oxygen or significant signs of hypoxia

- Unanticipated acute changes in Mental Status
  Decrease in LOC or unresponsive

- Escalating confusion or delirium without obvious cause

- Persistent Chest Pain

- If the nurse feels that “Something Is Not Quite Right” with a deteriorating clinical picture.
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The Rapid Response Team will help you assess and stabilize the patient. They will help you communicate with the physician, provide additional education, and offer support.

Their stated mission is “To improve patient outcomes through early recognition of clinical deterioration by providing rapid evaluation and interventions in collaboration with the bedside nurse.”

So…. If your patient is showing any of the clinical triggers, or if you feel that something is not quite right with your patient, please call the Rapid Response Team at 22222.