

I. Purpose of Procedure (Principle)

To standardize the process of action steps taken for common adverse patient reactions associated with phlebotomy.

II. Scope

This procedure applies to all medical staff and healthcare staff who have undertaken training in the collection of blood samples.

III. Definitions – N/A

IV. Specimen Requirements – N/A

V. Equipment, Reagents and Required Records/Forms

A. Personal Protective Equipment

All employees must adhere to Universal precautions: Treat all body specimens as if they are potentially infectious. Use Personal protective equipment. Refer to the policies for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) on the D-H Health and Safety Manual in the procedural assistance.

Wear lab coats and gloves whenever potentially infectious materials may be generated or contamination is reasonably anticipated. Use eye protection devices such as goggles or glasses with solid side shields, or chin-length face shields whenever splashes, spray, spatter or droplets of blood or other potentially infectious materials may be generated and eye, nose or mouth contamination can be reasonably anticipated.

B. Equipment

- Basin
- Cold compress

C. Reagents – N/A

D. Required Records/Forms – N/A

VI. Equipment Calibration/Process Validation – N/A

VII. Quality Control/Process Control – N/A

VIII. Procedure and Calculations

A. Fainting

1. If the patient is sitting, lower head and arms.
2. If the patient is lying down, elevate feet.
3. Loosen any tight clothing.
4. Apply cold compresses to the patient's forehead and back of neck.
5. Call a physician or nurse if there is no response. Even if the patient responds, medical staff should evaluate the situation.
6. For outpatients, follow the institution "CODE WHITE". (Link listed below)

B. Nausea

1. Situate the patient comfortably with his or her head lowered
2. Instruct the patient to breathe deeply and slowly.

C. Vomiting

1. Roll prone patients onto side.
2. Give patient a basin.
3. When vomiting ceases, assist the patient with water and towels.
4. Inform the provider.

D. Excessive Bleeding

1. Apply direct pressure to the venipuncture site while bleeding continues.
2. If the bleeding persists more than 5 minutes, call the provider.

E. Seizures

1. Guard the patient from self-injury without completely restraining.
2. Call the provider.

F. Heater Road Codes:

1. **Code Red**
 - Fire Alert:
 - Call – 911
 - Think RACE - Alert all staff in the area, activate the alarm –Call 911, call 5555 to notify D-H Lebanon emergency operator

2. **Code Amber**

- Infant Abduction:
- Announcement over the Public Address system; Observe suspicious activities; Call 911, call 5555 to notify D-H Lebanon emergency operator

3. **Code White**

- Medical emergency in a Public Area – Conscious person:
- Call 911 – Code White
- Provide support within your ability.

4. **Code Blue**

- Medical Emergency, Unconscious person anywhere in the D-H Lebanon complex:
- Call 911 – Code Blue – define problem, location, your name, provide support until responders arrive

5. **Code Black**

- Bomb Threat:
- Announcement over public address system; Call 911, call 5555 to notify D-H Lebanon emergency operator
- Remain calm, prolong the conversation, remember details, notify supervisor

6. **Code Purple**

- Mass Casualty
- Internal or external, which may result in a large number of patients requiring emergency treatment:
- Announced over the public address system
- Report to/contact your department
- Implement unit specific response procedures

G. **Southern New Hampshire labs**

1. **Code red:** Fire
2. **Code white:** Sick Patient Assistance
3. **Code Blue:** Unresponsive Patient
4. **Code Grey:** Violent/Combative Patient
5. **Code Amber:** Missing Person
6. **Code Silver:** Violence with Weapons
7. **Code Black:** Bomb Threat