

Kingston Health Sciences Centre

Centre des sciences de
la santé de Kingston



Fire Safety Review Condensed Version

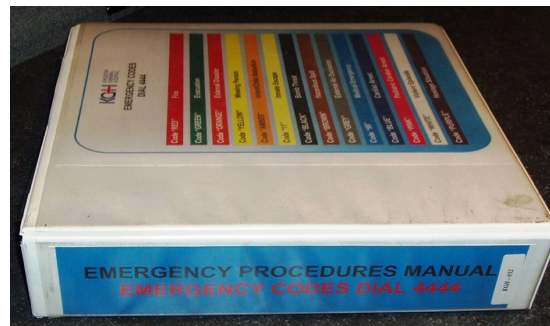


Emergency Codes

- The Emergency Code system is used in the hospital as a way to inform staff of a potential emergency situation.
- The system uses colours and numbers that are associated with different types of emergencies.
- All emergencies are reported via a call to 4444. This is a separate, priority line answered 24 hours a day.
- The following slide lists the emergency codes of the Kingston Hospitals.
- In addition to the colour and number codes, there are “contingency plans”. These are emergency plans used for utility emergencies (loss of power, loss of communications, flood, loss of Information technology and loss of water).

Emergency Codes

- The following slides illustrate an overview of the information in the Code Red and Code Green plans. The plans contain more information and detailed instructions for response to the emergencies and recovery after the incident
- These plans can be accessed via the KHSC Intranet or hard copy in Emergency Procedure Manuals (binders) which are positioned in key areas (every nursing station, Switchboard, Security, etc.).



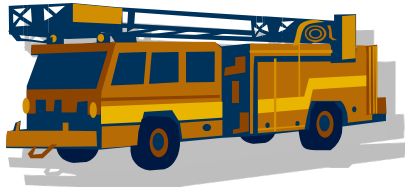
Emergency Procedures Manual



Kingston Hospitals' Emergency Codes - Dial 4444

Code Red	Fire
Code Green	Evacuation
Code Orange	External Disaster
Code Yellow	Missing Person
Code Amber	Infant/Child Abduction
Code 11	Inmate Escape
Code Black	Bomb Threat/Suspicious Package
Code Brown	Hazardous Spill
Code Grey	External Air Exclusion
Code 99	Medical Emergency
Code Blue	Cardiac Arrest
Code Pink	Pediatric Cardiac Arrest
Code White	Violent/Behavioural Situation
Code Purple	Hostage Situation
Code Silver Lockdown	Active Shooter/Dangerous Weapon
Contingency Plans - Loss of: Power, Loss of Water, Loss of Communications	
Contingency Plans - Loss of Information Technology, Flood Emergency	

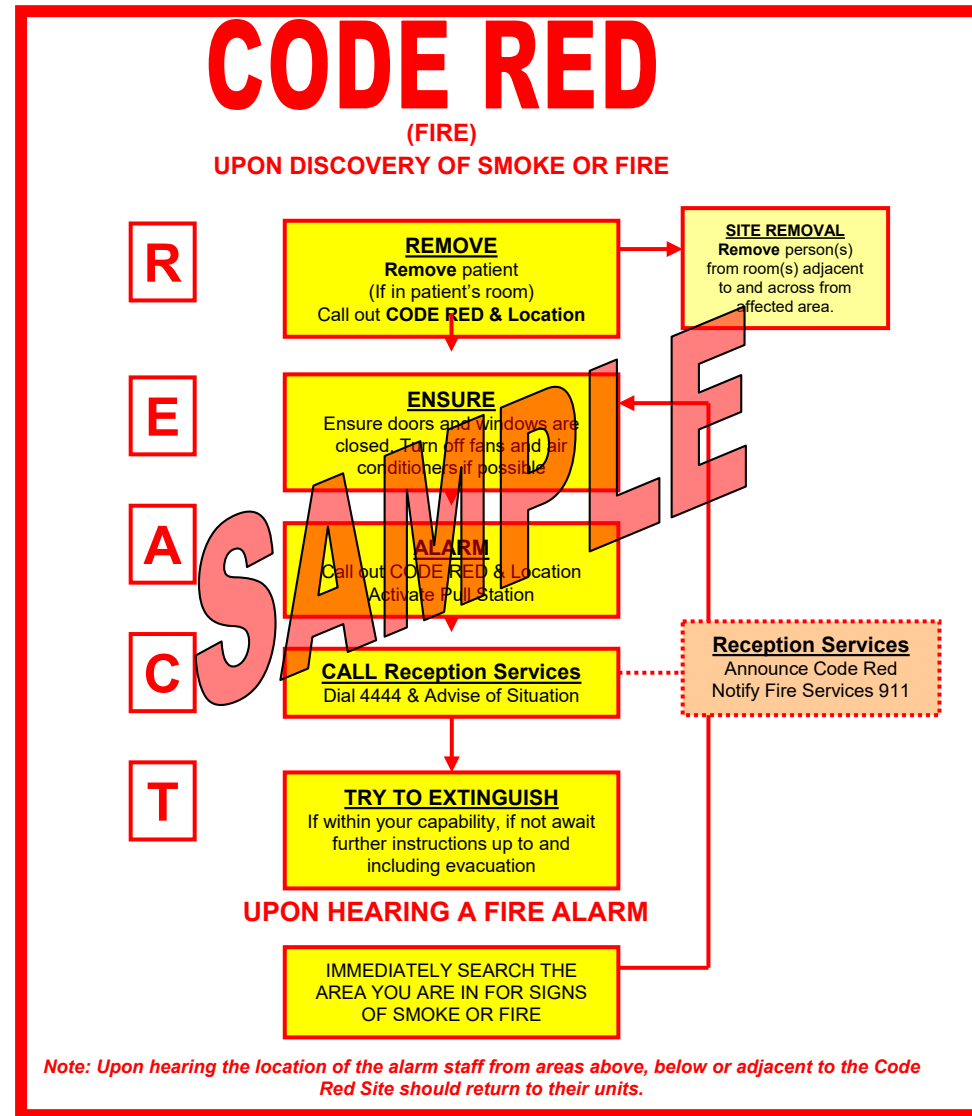
Code Red



Fire

The primary code related to fire safety is Code Red, which is to be used upon discovery of smoke or fire.

When you discover smoke or fire, initiate the R.E.A.C.T. acronym. The process is detailed in upcoming slides.



**Code
Red**

Fire

The R.E.A.C.T. Acronym

- The best way to accomplish R.E.A.C.T. is by getting help to do the steps from other people in the area.
- If you are the first person to discover the smoke or fire take the initiative and delegate others in the area to complete the R.E.A.C.T. steps.
- If you are completely alone, activate the nearest fire alarm pull station and evacuate to a safe location.
- Remember that if you hear the fire alarm, regardless of the location announced, check the area you are in for any signs of smoke or fire. If you discover smoke or fire, start R.E.A.C.T. and get help.

Code
Red

Fire

The R.E.A.C.T. Acronym

Remove

E

The **R** in **R.E.A.C.T.** stands for **Remove**. You want to remove anyone that is in immediate danger, for example, anyone in the same room as the fire, if you can do so safely.

A

The first room to be evacuated is the room of fire origin. Then the rooms next to and opposite that room are evacuated

C

T

Move along the same level, if possible, and get across the fire separation doors. Take the stairs if you need to evacuate downwards.

Code
Red

Fire

The R.E.A.C.T. Acronym

R

E

Ensure Containment

A

The **E** in **R.E.A.C.T.** stands for **Ensure Containment**. Ensure containment of the hazard by closing doors in and near the affected area (and windows if safe to do so) to minimize the spread of smoke and the amount of oxygen available to the fire.

C

T

Once the door is closed **DO NOT** reopen it.

Code
Red

Fire

The R.E.A.C.T. Acronym

R

The **A** in **R.E.A.C.T.** stands for **Alarm**. Yell out “**Code Red!**” and the location of the fire (Joe’s office, kitchen, etc.). Activate the nearest fire alarm station.

E

Alarm

C

The fire alarm for a Code Red is a slow tone (30 beats per minute).

T

A faster tone 120 beats per minute would sound when a Code Green (Evacuation) alarm is activated. Evacuation should not start until Code Green is announced, unless there is a known hazard in the area.

Code
Red

Fire

Alarm

Pull or key station alarms can always be found at external exit points or stairwell doors and are sometimes located near exit signs, or on either side of fire separation doors.

KGH is equipped with pull stations and Burr 4 has key station alarms. Burr 4 staff are provided with a fire key that activates key stations.

Some stations have a cover over them that will sound a siren when lifted up. This is just a warning sound that someone is accessing the alarm station. The station inside still needs to be activated in order to sound the alarm.



Key Station



Station with
cover

(Lift cover,
activate station)

**Code
Red**

Fire

Alarm

At KGH site, the patient call-bell system is also integrated into the hospital fire alarm. When an alarm sounds in a patient care area the call-bell lights will flash red, yellow, green or red, red, red (depending on the unit) in sequence.

Additionally, the phones for the call-bell system will display “Code Red” and the location of the alarm, if it is on the unit.



**Code
Red**

Fire

Code Red Alarm Response

- If you hear the fire alarm or “**Code Red**” immediately search your area for signs of smoke or fire. Regardless of the location provided in the announcement.
- If you discover smoke or fire; initiate the **R.E.A.C.T.** steps, delegating responsibilities to others in the area.
- If you do not discover smoke or fire; remain in your area, you may continue working, but you must maintain preparedness and listen for further announcements or an “All Clear” announcement. Continue checking your area periodically until an all clear is announced.
- If Code Red is announced, staff from the affected unit and the units above and below, who are away, should return to their unit to assist.
- Those responding to the location of the Code Red should be cautious. Use the back of your hand to feel for heat on closed doors to determine if there could be fire behind it. If there is smoke in a hallway, try and find an alternate route to approach from another side.

Code
Red

Fire

The R.E.A.C.T. Acronym

R

The **C** in **R.E.A.C.T.** stands for **Call 4444**. Call Switchboard at the 4444 emergency number mentioned earlier. Give specific information about the size and type of fire. For example: “Code Red Sydenham 2. The room is S2-123-1. It’s a small garbage fire and there’s lots of smoke.” **DO NOT** call 0 as you could be put on hold.

E

A

Call 4444

T

Make sure the Operator has the correct details before you hang up!



Code
Red

Fire

The R.E.A.C.T. Acronym

R

The **T** in **R.E.A.C.T.** stands for **Try to Extinguish**. Only try to extinguish a fire if you feel it is within your capability. If not, concentrate on further evacuation.

E

A

If trying to extinguish a fire, be aware of the type of fire the extinguisher is designed to fight. The label on the extinguisher will say what types of fires/fuels it can be used on.

C

Details on types of fuels are provide in upcoming slides.

Try to Extinguish

**Code
Red**

Fire

Rules for Fighting Fires

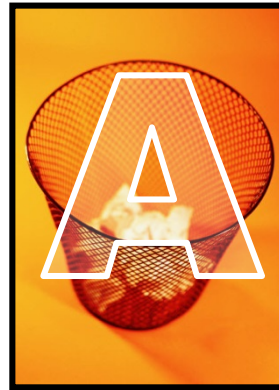
You may try and extinguish the fire if you feel it is within your capability. This should only be attempted when the fire is small and manageable and you are confident in how to use an extinguisher.

There are rules for fighting fires. You are not a fire fighter. You are not expected to be a fire fighter. You are not expected to put yourself in any danger. Also, if the door to the room with the fire has been closed it can be extremely dangerous to reopen the door to fight the fire. It is better to leave it to fire fighters.

Code
Red

Fire

Types of Extinguishers/Fuels

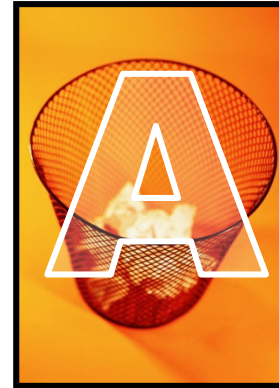


“ABC” or dry chemical extinguisher are the most common extinguisher and are designed for class A (solid materials – wood, paper, plastic, etc.), B (flammable liquids – oil, grease, gasoline, etc.) & C (energized electrical equipment – items that are plugged in or have a battery) fires/fuels. They are typically red, with a rubber hose and gauge attached.

Code
Red

Fire

Types of Extinguishers/Fuels

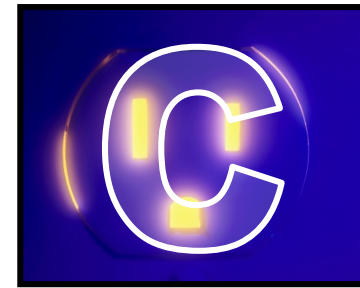
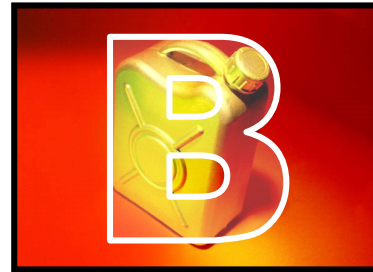


A.P.W., or air pressurized water extinguishers can be used only on class “A” type fires. They are typically stainless steel with a rubber hose and gauge attached.

Code
Red

Fire

Types of Extinguishers/Fuels



CO₂ or carbon dioxide extinguishers are designed for class “B” & “C” fires only. They are typically red with a plastic horn attached.

Code
Red

Fire

Types of Extinguishers/Fuels



“K” – Wet chemical extinguisher. This type of extinguisher is for Class K type fuels (cooking oils and fats). These extinguisher are normally only located in a food preparation kitchen.

**Code
Red**

Fire

Where to Locate Extinguishers

Fire Extinguishers are sometimes hung on walls, but are also usually located in fire hose cabinets. Extinguishers can be used by staff if they follow the rules mentioned previously. Fire hoses are not for staff use.



**Code
Red**

Fire

How to Use an Extinguisher

PASS Acronym

There is another acronym that you can use to remember how to operate a fire extinguisher. It is P.A.S.S.

Code
Red

Fire

How to Use an Extinguisher

Pull the pin

A

S

S



The “P” in P.A.S.S. stands for “Pull the pin.” There is usually a plastic tab holding the pin in place. This is easily broken when you pull out the pin.

Code
Red

Fire

How to Use an Extinguisher

P

Aim at the base

S

S

“A” stands for “Aim at the base.” Frequently the temptation is to aim at the flames. But if you do that, the extinguishing agent will fly right through and not put out the fire. You want to hit the base of the fire where the fuel is, because that is what you are trying to extinguish.



Code
Red

Fire

How to Use an Extinguisher

P

A

Squeeze the handle

S

The first “S” stands for “Squeeze the handle or trigger.” This releases the extinguishing agent from the extinguisher.



Code
Red

Fire

How to Use an Extinguisher

P

The second “S” stands for “Sweep from side to side.” Start at a safe distance away and work your way forward. Once the fire is out, keep an eye on the area in case it reignites.



A

The other R.E.A.C.T. steps must still be completed!

S

If you empty the extinguisher just lay it on the floor on its side against a wall, so people know that it is empty and it's not a tripping hazard. You don't want someone to come around the corner and try to put out the fire with an empty extinguisher.

S

sweep from side to side

**Code
Red**

Patients with Oxygen

Fire

- Oxygen represents a significant threat to patients/clients who smoke or are near those who smoke.
- When patients/clients are using oxygen their clothes become saturated with it and are therefore highly flammable.
- Patients/clients should take some time away from their oxygen source before igniting a cigarette.
- Their distance from the tank may be insufficient to stop possible ignition.
- Remind patients/clients not to smoke near oxygen sources.
- A fire extinguisher can and should be used if a person's clothing is on fire. The base of the fire would be the person's clothes.

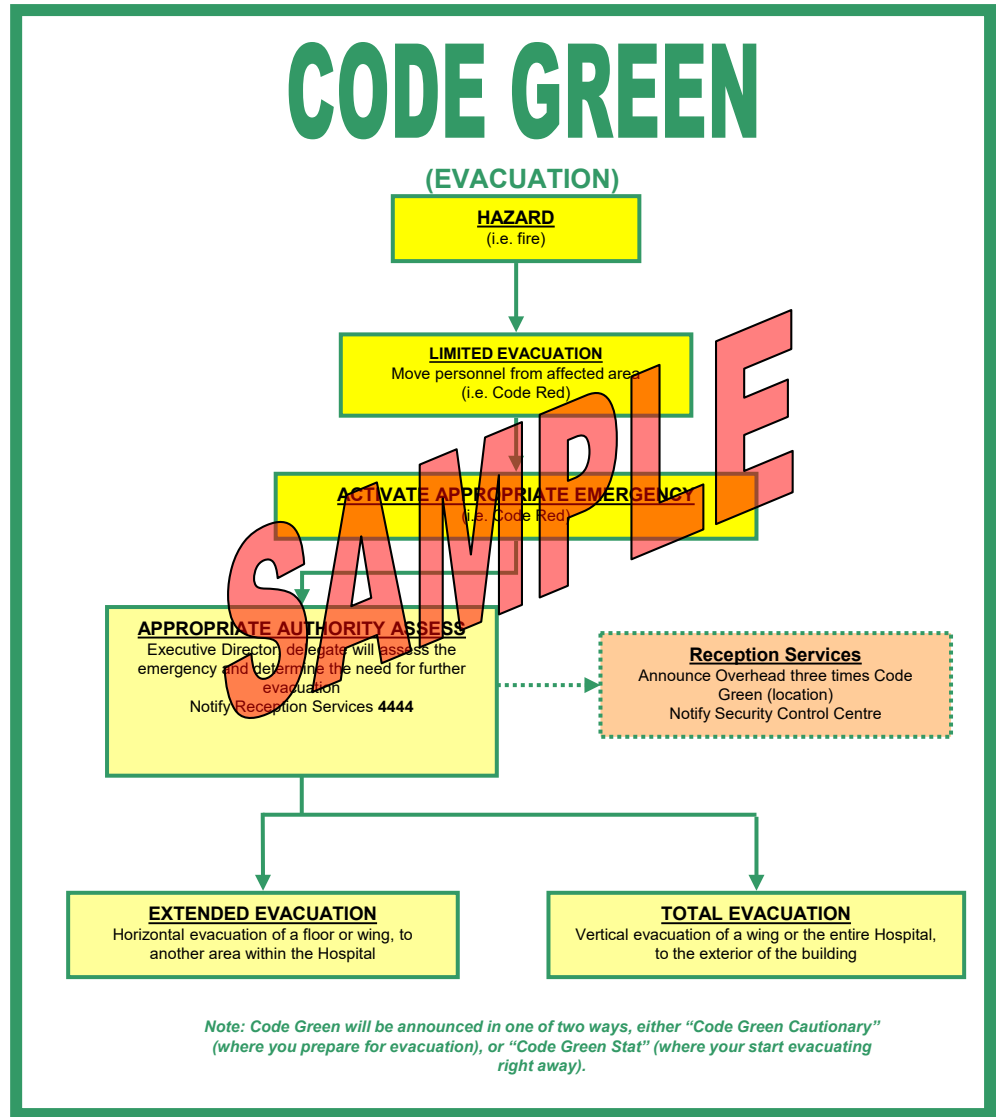


Code Green

Evacuation



Code Green is used for an extended or total evacuation of an entire wing, or the facility. It may be used for any emergency requiring evacuation of one or more areas of the hospital.



Types of Announcements

Evacuation

When the alarms activate for a **Code Green** staff should prepare for evacuation. Please wait for the overhead announcement to identify which area needs to evacuate. Only if you hear “Code Green KGH or HDH” would the entire hospital evacuate. This would be a coordinated effort and staff would be directed to the appropriate evacuation point.

Types of Announcements

There are two levels of Code Green that may be announced during an emergency:

“**Code Green – Cautionary**” will be used to inform staff to start preparing for evacuation. This would be followed by overhead announcements with specific instructions for the affected area.

“**Code Green – Stat**” will be used for emergencies requiring immediate evacuation.

Remember to evacuate horizontally (along the same level), whenever possible. If there is a total evacuation move the ground level exit of the wing you are in.

**Code
Green**

Defending in Place

Kingston Health Science Centre Hospitals have been designed to promote a 'defend-in-place' response to emergencies. The doors and walls of the facilities meet Building Code requirements to assist in protecting the occupants during times of emergencies.

Strategy for "defend-in-place" is that evacuations occur only as far as is necessary to get out of the area of danger.

Activation of Code Green is generally a last resort response when all other response measures have been exhausted.

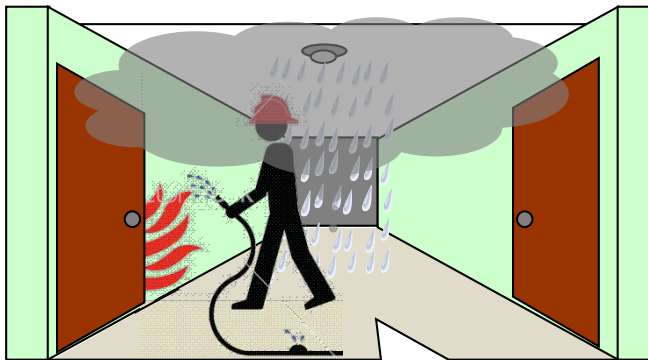
Code Green will change the overhead bells to the fast mode (120 beats per minute). Make sure you listen to the announcement to ensure your area is affected.

Evacuation

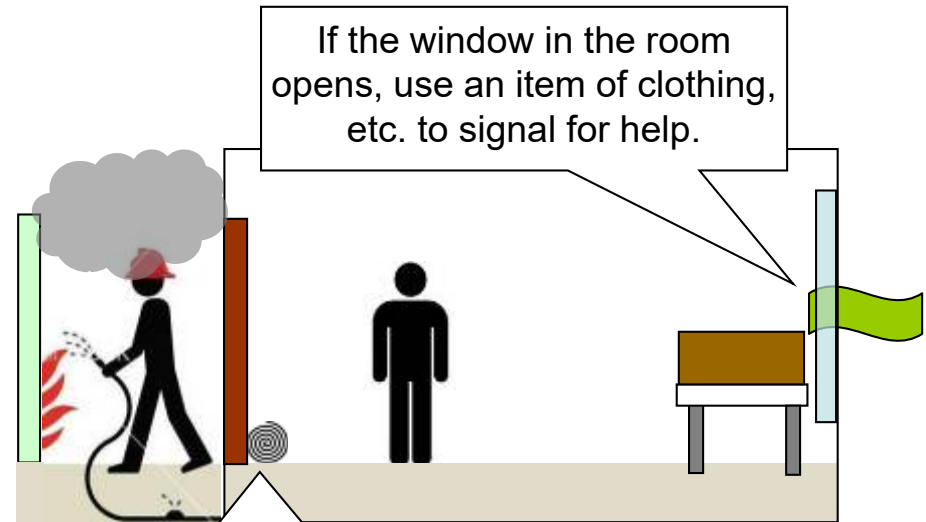
Defending in Place

Evacuation

Defending-in-place could also refer to taking shelter within a room when evacuation out of a smoke filled area is not possible.



It is dangerous to enter hallways, or take stairwells, that are filled with smoke. **If necessary, you could take shelter in an enclosed room.**



If the window in the room opens, use an item of clothing, etc. to signal for help.

Close the door and block the gap between the door and the floor to stop smoke from getting in. If possible use wet towels or blankets.

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End of presentation

