Critical Care Response Team

Nursing Orientation
What is a Critical Care Response Team?

• A critical care response team (CCRT) is a team of critical care trained physicians, nurses, and respiratory therapists that respond to calls from the in-patient and (some) outpatient units in the hospital.

• You are also an important part of the CCRT team!

• In other hospitals, these teams go by other names such as the MET (Medical Emergency Team) or CCOT (Critical Care Outreach Teams) or Rapid Response Teams.
What does a CCRT do?

- The CCRT team applies principles of acute care medicine and resuscitation and brings specialized knowledge and skills to the bedside around the clock, seven days a week.

- In addition to new consults, the CCRT also follows all discharges from the CrCU for 48 hours.

- The CCRT is available to:
  - Support you when your patient’s condition deteriorates.
  - Provide education on clinical topics and procedures.
  - Assist you in making your patient comfortable when they are near death.
Why do we need CCRT?

• Extensive research into code blue events have demonstrated that patients tend to show signs and symptoms of deterioration up to 8 hours before they experience a cardiac or respiratory event.

• The purpose of CCRT is to identify patients who are starting to deteriorate and intervene earlier.

• This results in better quality of care and outcomes for the patient.
How busy is the CCRT?

- Available 24/7
- Since 2007, we have seen over 5000 patients within the hospital
- We average about 100 new consults a month and on average about 20% need to be transferred to CrCU
- We respond to all in-patient units except for the Emergency Department
- We also respond to 3 out-patient areas:
  - Diagnostic imaging
  - Chemotherapy Clinic
  - Endoscopy Clinic
How do I activate (call) CCRT?

• Call 6002
• Ask for the Critical Care Response Team to be paged to your unit
• You will receive return phone calls from:
  • The CCRT Respiratory Therapist
  • The CCRT Registered Nurse
• Provide pertinent information over the phone
What about Code Blues???

- NYGH policy states that a code should be called for any impending or actual respiratory or cardiac arrests

- The CCRT is not the same as the code team!!!

- If your patient is extremely unstable and about to arrest, you should not call CCRT

- The CCRT cart does not have the emergency equipment required to treat respiratory or cardiac arrest patient
What type of information do I need to provide to CCRT when they call?

- When the CCRT RN and RT return your phone call, they are trying to triage the call as they are often with another patient and need to ensure that your patient receives the care they need in a timely manner.
- The questions may vary but you will usually be asked questions about the patient’s:
  - Name
  - Age
  - Reason for admission to your unit
  - Code Status
  - Current condition (reason for calling)
  - MRP and whether they are aware
  - Other – dependent on the situation
What is the calling criteria for CCRT?

Critical Care Response Team
CALLING CRITERIA

A
AIRWAY
- Threatened
- Stridor
- Excessive Secretions

B
BREATHING
- Acute change in RR <8 or >30
- Acute change in O2Sat. <90%
- Distressed breathing

C
CIRCULATION
- Acute change in HR <40 or >130
- Systolic Blood pressure <90mmHg or greater than 180mmHg OR
- An acute change more than 40mmHg

D
DECREASED or ALTERED LOC
- Acute changes in level of consciousness
- Patient more lethargic, drowsy than usual for no obvious reason

Worried about your patient?

Page CCRT via 6002
24 hours a day/7 days a week
What happens when during a CCRT consult?

- The CCRT RN and RT will come to see the patient with you.
- Together you will assess the patient and identify potential interventions.
- The CCRT RN will usually discuss the case with the CCRT MD who will also see the patient.
- You will notify the patient’s MRP and they may also discuss the patient with you and the CCRT.
- If the patient needs to be admitted to CrCU, the CCRT team will communicate this with you and help to arrange transfer.
- If the patient can be stabilized and managed safely on the ward, the CCRT will also communicate their plans with you.
What happens after a CCRT Consult?

• During the consult, the CCRT team will discuss with you the next steps (e.g. new orders, interventions, tests so that everyone is clear

• If the patient is to be transferred, the CCRT will assist with this transfer

• If the patient is to remain on the unit, the CCRT will inform you if and when they will return to check on the patient

• If the patient does not require further follow up, the CCRT will also let you know BUT...

• **YOU CAN ALWAYS CALL THE CCRT AGAIN IF THE SITUATION CHANGES!!**
What are my responsibilities during a CCRT consult?

• Notify the patient’s MRP that CCRT has been called

• Enter in a communication into the patient’s chart

COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE with the team

• Stay with the team during the patient assessment
What about documentation?

• As the nurse calling CCRT, you are responsible for notifying the MRP and entering in a communication note in the chart

• The CCRT now documents ON-LINE and their documentation can be found in the results tab
Thank You
Questions???