

RESPONSE EMERGENCIES IN ZONES 3 & 4

PURPOSE

- To ensure patient safety and the safety of personnel responding to an emergency in Zones 3 & 4.

GUIDELINES FOR PATIENT EMERGENCIES

- Immediately call the hospital emergency operator (Dial 7777) to report the event.
- Immediately remove the patient from the MRI scan room via the imaging table or a MRI safe stretcher. Zone 3 is a safe location to perform emergency care management.
- Lock the MRI scan room door to prevent anyone from entering without undergoing appropriate screening.
- Have MRI personnel at the MRI scan room door to prevent non-screened personnel from entering zone 4.
- Summon available Medical Imaging personnel in the immediate area to provide aid.
- Complete an ERS incident report.

GUIDELINES FOR FIRE OUTBREAKS

- Immediately call the hospital emergency operator (Dial 7777) to report the event.
- Immediately remove the patient from the MRI scan room via the imaging table or a MRI safe stretcher (if applicable).
- Lock the MRI scan room door to prevent anyone from entering without undergoing appropriate screening.
- If you discover a fire, follow this order of response (RACE):
 - Rescue - rescue or remove any persons from the immediate area
 - Alert - pull the nearest fire alarm and call 7777 to report the event
 - Contain - close all doors to the fire area
 - Extinguish - extinguish the fire using the appropriate fire extinguisher
- In the event of a fire in the MRI scan room:
 - Disconnect the electrical power to the MRI system by pressing the emergency "off" button. Do not press the "quench" button on the Emergency Rundown Unit at this point.
 - Only use a non-magnetic extinguisher (available in the MRI department).
 - Screen all personnel, including firefighters, for entry to the restricted magnetic field zones.
 - If the fire is not extinguished after emptying the available extinguisher, or if personnel or patient safety is endangered, remove the magnetic field by pressing a "quench" button on the Emergency Rundown Unit.

- In the event of a fire in the MRI control room or computer room:
 - Disconnect the electrical power to the MRI system by pressing the emergency "off" button.
 - Use an appropriate fire extinguisher.
 - If the fire is not extinguished after emptying the available extinguisher, or if personnel or patient safety is endangered, evacuate the room and manually activate the in-house pull alarm.
- Do not jeopardize your own safety by trying to extinguish or contain a fire.

GUIDELINES FOR POLICE & FIRE PERSONNEL

- Post warning signs outside all rooms which have magnetic fields higher than 5 gauss, including the MRI control room, processor room (if applicable) and other adjacent rooms.
- Police and security personnel are to admit only designated service personnel and designated hospital employees to the MRI scan room unless prearranged by Medical Imaging management.
- If police or security personnel must enter the scan room, they must follow proper MR screening protocols. They will be required to remove firearms and all other metal from their persons prior to entering the MRI scan room.
- In the event of a fire that cannot be contained with a fire extinguisher or other threat to personnel or patient safety, disconnect the electrical power to the MRI system by pressing the emergency "off" button and remove the magnetic field by pressing the "quench" button on the Emergency Rundown Unit.