

 <p>Connecticut Valley Hospital Nursing Policy and Procedure</p>	<p>SECTION D: PSYCHOLOGICAL ADAPTATION CHAPTER 12: MEDICAL EMERGENCY PROCEDURES</p> <p>POLICY AND PROCEDURE 12.2.2 Emergency Cart Check Procedure</p>
<p>Authorization: Nursing Executive Committee</p>	<p>Date Effective: May 1, 2018 Scope: Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses</p>

Standard of Practice:

The Nurse will verify readiness of the emergency cart.

Standard of Care:

The patient can expect that appropriate supplies are available in medical emergencies.

Policy:

Emergency carts will be checked once daily for the functioning of the suction and oxygen, and their related equipment. All other items on and in the cart are expected to be present in the noted amounts at all times. A red lock needs to be present which indicates the cart is ready for use.

Procedure:

1. Check oxygen level daily.

The oxygen cylinder is to be turned on at the neck. The amount of oxygen in the cylinder is to be noted from the gauge as "pounds-per-square-inch" or psi. This amount is to be recorded on the check sheet. The cylinder is to be bled and then shut off at the neck. If the psi is below 500, the Nurse ensures replacement of the cylinder and notifies the switchboard operator.

The Switchboard Operator will be notified of the need for a replacement cylinder. When the cylinder is delivered, a Nurse ensures replacement of the O₂ cylinder.

2. Oxygen related items are to be checked.

The presence of the oxygen mask, nasal cannula, BVM (BAG-VALVE MASK) and airways on the top or sides of the cart is to be noted and recorded on the checklist.

3. The suction machine functioning is to be checked daily.

Plug the power cord in and turn the suction power switch on. Take the suction tubing and apply the end to the skin of the hand or forearm. One should feel the gentle suction pressure and see the suction gauge raise in increasing value of "cm Hg of vac." If there is

any doubt about the functioning in this "dry" test, use a small amount of tap water through the tubing to verify suction. Unplug machine after testing.

4. Suction related items are to be checked.

The presence of the whistle tip catheters and Yankauers on the top of the cart is to be noted and recorded on the checklist.

The cart is locked with a red security lock, if it is the double lock type, signifying Pharmacy has checked and restocked all medications.

Monthly Emergency Cart Contents Inspection and Weekly AED Battery Check

1. The Night Nurse on the Units will perform a monthly contents check of the Emergency Cart. Along with contents, the Nurse will check for expired or compromised non-medication supplies. This will be coordinated with Pharmacy's medication check. The monthly check should be done the night before the Pharmacy's med check.
2. The weekly AED Battery check takes place on Saturday nights, second shift. This will include the removal of the AED battery with immediate reinstallation. This weekly process of battery removal and reinstallation will clean the battery of oxidation, restore power to the device, and ensure AED readiness for use at all times.
3. If a LIFEPAK 1000 is in use at a medical emergency and does not appear to be functioning correctly and/or the battery indicator is showing little power, please remove the battery from the battery compartment then immediately reinstall the battery in to the compartment to reestablish electrical contact.
4. The Nurse will use the contents checklist to verify that the cart is properly stocked. The red security lock indicates the cart has been checked and is ready for use.
5. If the Nurse discovers that something is missing, s/he will obtain the item from the designated emergency cart supply area and replace the item. S/he will then order a replacement from Central Supply.
6. After completing the cart check, a yellow lock will be placed on the cart for Pharmacy to replace the next day. The Nursing Supervisor will be responsible for indicating on the shift report that the Pharmacy has been notified of the need for a lock change. The Nurse Supervisor working on the next business day will follow up with the unit to ensure the cart lock has been changed, and then follow up with the Pharmacy as needed.

Page Hall

The two emergency carts in Page Hall will be checked as per policy above on a Monday through Friday schedule when the building is open to the public.

Page Hall Emergency Cart Check Schedule is as follows:

Monday:	Nursing, Dutcher Supervisor's Office
Tuesday:	Merritt 3D/E
Wednesday:	Nursing, Battell Supervisor's Office
Thursday:	Merritt 3D/E
Friday:	Nursing, Dutcher Supervisor's Office