

# Medical Emergency (Code Blue)

WHS Regulation states a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) at a workplace must ensure:

- a) the provision of first aid equipment for the workplace; and
- b) that each worker at the workplace has access to the equipment; and
- c) access to facilities for the administration of first aid; and
- d) an adequate number of workers are trained to administer first aid at the workplace; or
- e) workers have access to an adequate number of other persons who have been trained to administer first aid.

The PCBU must have regard to all relevant matters including -

- a) the nature of the work being carried out at the workplace; and
- b) the nature of the hazards at the workplace; and
- c) the size and location of the workplace; and
- d) the number and composition of the workers and other persons at the workplace.

**In an emergency situation, do not hesitate to contact the Emergency Services; call 000 from an external phone, (0) 000 from an internal phone or 112 from a mobile phone and request either Police, Fire or Ambulance and then contact Security (TSV - ext. 15555 / 4781 5555, CNS – ext. 21293 / 4232 1293)**

**CODE BLUE** (Medical Emergency) is an acute injury or illness that poses an immediate risk to a person's life. Dependent on the severity of the emergency, and the type of treatment given, it may require the involvement of multiple levels of care, from first aider to Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's) from Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS).

Any response to an emergency medical situation will depend strongly on the situation, the patient involved and availability of resources to help them. JCU has trained first aiders, first aid kits, emergency eyewash stations, emergency showers and Automatic External Defibrillators (AED's).

Townsville and Cairns Campus have 24/7 Security patrols. Security patrol units are available to respond to events. At the Townsville Campus the patrol vehicles carry first aid kits and AED's.

## Initial Response in First Aid

- D DANGER** Ensure the area is safe for you, others and the patient
- R RESPONSE** "COWS"  
Can you hear me? Open your eyes? What's your name? Squeeze my hands.
- S SEND for help** Call Triple Zero (0) 000 or 112 for an Ambulance (Emergency Services)
- A AIRWAY** Check Airway, clear if necessary
- B BREATHING** Check for breathing – look, listen and feel
- C CPR** Start CPR – 30 chest compressions : 2 breaths
- D DEFIBRILLATION** Apply defibrillator, if available and follow voice prompts

## First Aid Kits

At JCU, occupants have access to first aid kits. The kits are to provide basic equipment for administering first aid. Kits must contain a list of their contents and be regularly checked to ensure all kit contents are in date. Medications including analgesics such as aspirin or paracetamol must not be kept in general first aid kits because of the potential to possibly cause harm to fellow occupants. Occupants who require prescription and over the counter medications will be required to carry their own medication for their own personal use as necessary. Some remote sites have been risk assessed and require a more significant Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) kit, which also require specific training and registration with RFDS.

## Automatic External Defibrillators (AED)

Providing an automated external defibrillator can reduce the risk of fatality from cardiac arrest. It is a useful addition for workplaces where there is a risk of electrocution or where there are large numbers of members of the public. JCU has several AED's located across various workplaces. AED's must be maintained according to the manufacturer's specifications.

## Eyewash and Emergency Shower Equipment

There are several types of emergency eyewash stations and emergency shower systems, drench hoses, combination units, and eyewash bottles. These are provided in areas that have a risk of hazardous chemicals or infectious substances.

## Signage

Emergency Equipment must be identifiable and visible with the correct signage (white text on a green background) and comply with Australian Standards.

## First Aiders

JCU acknowledges that First Aiders will vary from one workplace to the next, depending on the nature of the work, the type of hazard, the workplace size and location, and the number of occupants at the location. Each Division must ensure they have sufficient workers trained to administer first aid. *First Aid in the Workplace Code of Practice 2014* advises that the CPR/Defibrillator refresher training should be undertaken annually. First Aid qualifications need to be renewed every three (3) years to remain current.

## Resources

- Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 (Division 3, Section 42)
- First Aid in the Workplace Code of Practice 2014
- WSE-PRO-019 Emergency Management Procedure
- AS/NZS 1319 Safety Signs for the Occupational Environment.
- AS 4775 Emergency Eyewash and Shower Equipment

**Security Patrol Officers are available to respond to Medical Emergencies**

**Townsville 4781 5555 / 1800 675 559**

**Cairns 4232 1293**