

Tab 2 – ERP Code Purple

Manual:	Emergency Response and Preparedness Manual
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Reviewed By:	Chief Executive Officer Director of Care Risk Management Lead
Approved By:	Director of Quality Improvement

Policy

Emergency Response Codes

Procedure

- Code Purple is activated, but not announced, when an individual has been taken hostage in the home.
- **The Charge Registered Nurse (RN) is the Incident Manager.**
 - During business hours, the role of Incident Manager **CAN be delegated** to a manager.

Prevent/Prepare

- All staff must be vigilant and if an individual outside the home is noticed to have a weapon or is acting aggressively, do not open the door for them and try not to allow them entry into the home.
- Review and be familiar with the Code Purple *Taken Hostage Tip Sheet* and steps to take if taken hostage.

Respond

- Code Purple is communicated when an individual has been taken hostage in the home. **Do not announce the code overhead** as this may cause panic for the hostage taker.
- If you are not in the area of the active Code Purple, stay away.
- If safe for front desk staff to do so, tape a sign to the front door stating there is an emergency in process and no one can enter the home.
- Get away from immediate danger and evacuate residents from the area if safe to do so.
- When someone is made aware of a hostage situation, it will be brought to the attention of the Charge RN, who will determine whether or not to delegate the Incident Manager role to a manager.
- Call the police (9-1-1) and provide as much information as possible (i.e., location of the incident, number of hostage takers and hostages, physical description and names of the hostage takers and hostages (if known), any weapons involved (if known), your name, location, and telephone number).
- The Incident Manager must follow the procedures for Code Purple as per the designated Job Action checklists.
- All staff must follow the instructions of the Incident Manager.

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- Do not speak to the media. Do not use telephones or social media, including your wireless devices.

Recover

- When the police inform the Incident Manager that the hostage situation has ended, the Incident Manager announces all clear using the annunciator panel.
- A debrief with as many staff as possible should be conducted as soon as possible once the Code Purple is declared over.

Tools

- Code Purple Incident Manager Job Action Checklist
- Code Purple Executive Director/Designate Job Action Checklist
- Code Purple Taken Hostage Tip Sheet
- Code Purple Poster