



भारत सरकार
Government of India
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
वर्धमान महावीर मेडिकल कॉलेज एवं सफदरजंग अस्पताल नई दिल्ली
Vardhman Mahavir Medical College & Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi - 110029



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Document No.	TITLE		
E/ NABH/ SJH/ Policy/ Code Pink-34	Code Pink		
Effective Date: 01/03/2023			
Function	Name	Designation	Signature
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Distribution: Quality Cell, Medical Superintendent, Labour Ward, Neonatal ICU, Chief Medical Officer Room, Casualty Nodal Officer Room

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

CODE PINK is an emergency code that is used to activate a set of actions in case a child/ baby is missing from the ward/ room. As there is a fair possibility that the missing child/ baby could be abducted, it is considered an emergency, and a predefined set of actions are taken on an urgent basis to safeguard the missing child/ baby. The entire system of communication, coordination, decisions, and actions followed during such a situation is referred to as Code Pink.

2.0 PURPOSE

This policy outlines the steps to follow to locate the missing baby/child as soon as feasible. This objective is achieved in a manner that other critical activities in the hospital do not get hampered and that unnecessary scare or commotion of the public is avoided.

3.0 SCOPE

This document applies to all healthcare workers posted in the Department of Gynecology, Neonatology Ward, Department of Pediatrics, and Security Department.

4.0 DEFINITION

Emergency: An emergency is a situation that poses an immediate risk to health, life, property, or the environment.

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Abduction: The action of forcibly taking someone away against their will or in the case of Code Pink, it is (against the law) the illegal separation of a child from their parents or legal guardians.

Hospital Administrator: A person responsible for organizing, carrying out, and overseeing the administration of a hospital.

5.0 ABBREVIATION

CCTV: Closed Circuit Television

6.0 RESPONSIBILITY

- It is the responsibility of every healthcare worker to initiate Code Pink as soon as he/she notices a missing infant/ child.
- The operator announces Code Pink and also its closure.
- Identified healthcare workers to look for the missing infant/ child
- Security personnel to carry out the search activities and prepare a report.
- Administrator to plan, supervise, abort Code Pink and carry out root cause analysis and corrective and preventive action for code pink

7.0 PROCEDURE

CODE PINK: Infant Child Abduction

When any hospital personnel is informed of a missing infant or child, **Code Pink** must be initiated by completing the following steps:

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To initiate Code Pink:

- Call the emergency number (HOSPITAL POLICE STATION)....., stating that there is a missing infant/child, and initiate Code Pink.
- Provide a brief description of the child's appearance, including age/sex/ethnicity of the baby/clothing of the baby, etc.
- The operator announces Code pink, including the description of the infant/child.

Upon hearing Code Pink:

Staff All Floor Exits (SAFE)

- All personnel to immediately stop non-critical work.
- Report to all stairwell doors, elevator areas, and other exits from the immediate area.
- Personnel who are outside their normal work area should report to the nearest exit.
- Question anyone with an infant or child that fits the description and be suspicious of bags that may be large enough to hold an infant/child
- If you see a suspicious person, call the emergency number with a description, the location, and the route of the person.

Security in-charge

- Should deploy sufficient guards at all entry/exit points.
- Few can be sent across the hospital as a search team, to search exteriors, staircases, basements, terraces, etc.
- All contractual/outsourced employees must also be restricted from any movement outside the hospital.
- The person manning the CCTV camera must closely examine all areas through CCTV. An additional person can be deployed for scrutiny.

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Administrator

- The respective unit/ departmental head supervises and coordinates all activities of Code Pink. The Medical Superintendent is the overall in charge. In his absence, the on-duty Chief Medical Officer takes over all the responsibilities.
- As soon as the hospital administrator comes to know about the incident:
 - He/she should visit the area from where the child/baby is missing and take information about the situation.
 - He/she should also meet the parents and assure them of all possible efforts being taken by the hospital.
 - He/she can modify the Code Pink action plan or take any decisions that may be required at that time.

To call off Code Pink

Code pink remains activated till the time any one of the following outcomes is materialized.

- The baby is found.
- If a baby is not found up to one hour after Code Pink activation, a decision to stop Code Pink can be taken by the hospital administrator. The time can be extended or reduced as per the situational analysis.
- In case the baby is not found, police should be informed before calling off the Code Pink. Instruction from the police department should be adhered to.

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How to call off code pink

It can be called off only by the hospital administrator or the security-in-charge in his absence.

- For calling off Code Pink, the telephone operator should be informed, and he/she will announce, "Code Pink-all clear", three times.
- With this announcement, all staff resumes their normal work and the active search for the baby can be discontinued.

What transpires after code pink is called off

- Staff should resume their work.
- The hospital administrator, security in charge, and department in charge from where the baby is missing should complete the following process:
 - If the baby is found, a quick physical examination of the baby is done to ensure that the baby is in normal condition. He/she should be handed over to the parents.
 - If the baby has minor injuries, First aid should be given.
 - If the baby has severe injuries or is in dead condition or any condition indicative of manhandling/abuse/crime, the police shall immediately be informed and a medico-legal case should be documented.
 - If a suspect is found spiriting away with the child, the description of the suspect should be noted, and police should be informed as soon as possible.
 - If the baby is not found in sufficient time, the police should be informed.
 - The security officer should prepare a detailed report of the Code Pink incident. The report must contain a description of the baby, the time of Code Pink activation, details of search operations, decisions taken, and the outcome of Code Pink.
 - Hospital administrator should analyse the Code Pink system and take corrective action to make it more robust.

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8.0 REFERENCES

- The Health Care manager. Enhancing Knowledge in Health care and Hospital Management. Code Pink System in Hospital.
<https://expresshealthcaremanagement.blogspot.com>

9.0 APPENDICES AND FORMS

- Flow chart for Code Pink
- Contact Numbers for Emergency Codes in Safdarjung Hospital

10.0 VALIDITY STATEMENT

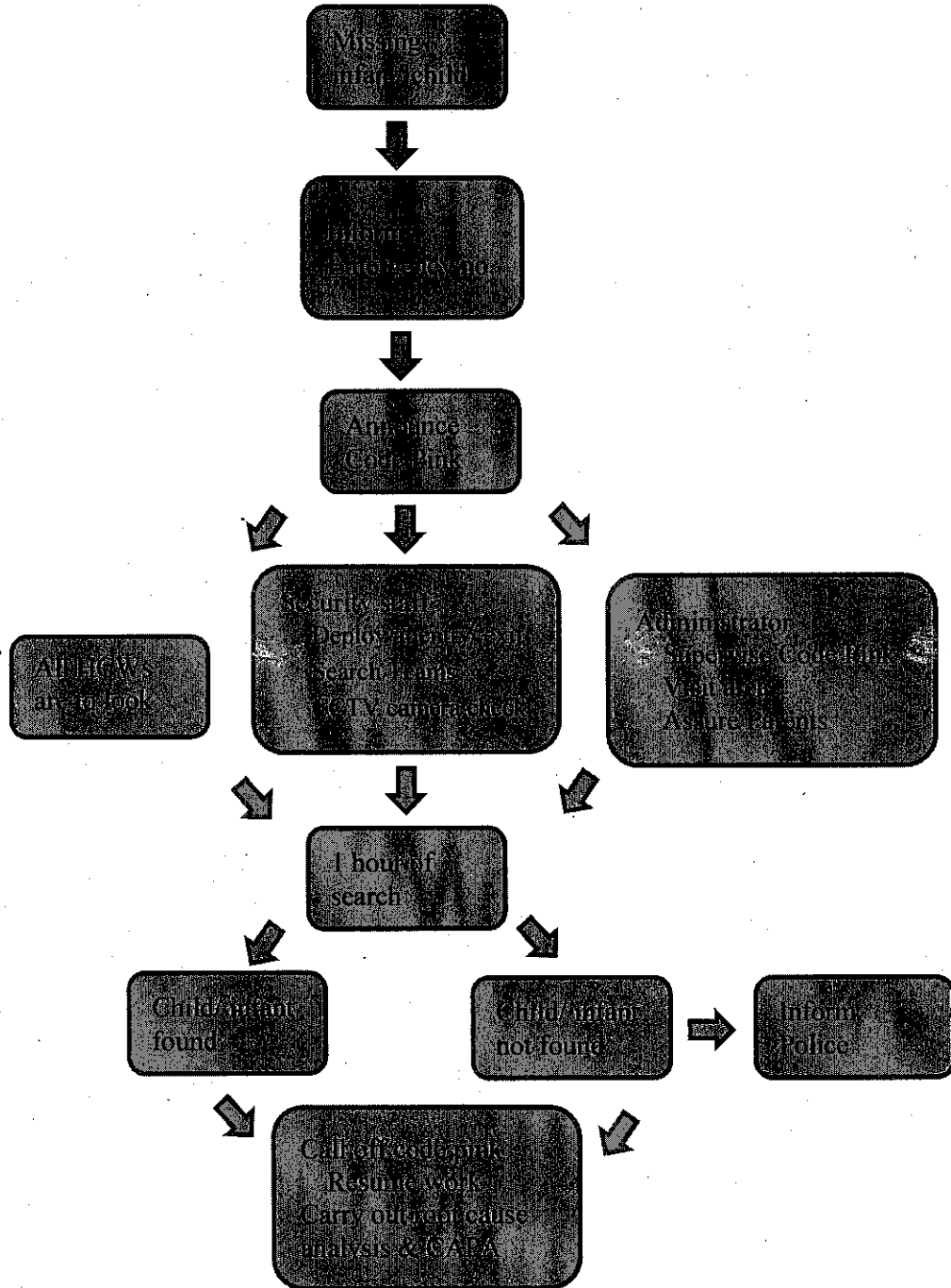
This document is valid for one year from the date of issue.

11.0 APPENDICES AND FORMS

- * Annexure A Flow Chart for Code Pink
- * Annexure B: Contact Numbers for Emergency Codes in Safdarjung Hospital
- * Annexure B Amendment sheet
- * Annexure C Training log

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Annexure A
Flow Chart for Code Pink



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Annexure B
AMENDMENT SHEET
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Sr No.	Page No.	Clause No.	Date of Amendment	Amendment Made	Reasons	Signature of Officer In-charge	Signature of Medical Superintendent
1							
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Annexure C

VMMC & Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi

TRAINING LOG (Contents, Deviation, and Amendment)



Sr . No	Training Attendee	Date	Signature
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Officer In-charge

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