EMERGENCY CODES FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

Note: There are currently no national standards for internal emergency code terminology at health centers, but, unless the health center already has an alternate system established, it is recommended that health centers use the codes below. (And if your center is using an alternate system, CHCANYS would be interested in getting a copy of your codes to keep on file.)

CODES	*EMERGENCY CODE DEFINITIONS*
FIRE	**RED**—Procedures staff should follow to protect patients, staff, visitors, themselves and property from a confirmed or suspected fire.
MEDICAL EMERGENCY	**BLUE**—Facilitate the arrival of equipment and specialized personnel to the location of an adult medical emergency. Provide life support and emergency care.
INFANT/CHILD ABDUCTION	**PINK**—Activate response to protect infants and children from removal by unauthorized persons and identify the physical descriptions and actions of someone attempting to kidnap an infant from the medical facility.
COMBATIVE ASSAULT PERSON	**GRAY**—Activate facility and staff response when staff are confronted by an abusive/assaultive person.
BOMB THREAT	**GREEN**—Activate response to a bomb threat or the discovery of a suspicious package.
PERSON WITH WEAPONS OR HOSTAGE	**SILVER**—Activate facility and staff response to event in which staff members are confronted by: persons brandishing a weapon or who have taken hostages in the medical facility.
HAZARDOUS MATERIAL SPILL	**YELLOW**—Identify unsafe exposure conditions, safely evacuate an area and protect others from exposure due to a hazardous materials spill release. Perform procedures to be taken in response to a minor or major spill.
INTERNAL DISASTER (ICS)	**ORANGE/TRIAGE INTERNAL**—Activate response to incidents which require or may require significant support from several departments in order to continue patient care. Activates ICS.
EXTERNAL DISASTER (ICS)	**ORANGE/TRIAGE EXTERNAL**—Activate response to external emergencies which require or may require significant support from several departments in order to continue patient care. Activates ICS.
POWER BLACK OUT	**BLACK/CODE EDISON**—Activate response to a rolling power failure.
CBRNE	**BROWN—CBRNE**, a chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear emergency.
EVACUATION NECESSARY	**WHITE**—Evacuation of the facility is necessary; activate evacuation procedure.