



DEPARTMENT: Nursing Service Department		POLICY NUMBER: DPOTMH-MPP-NSD-P015-(01)	
TITLE/DESCRIPTION: POLICY ON IMPLEMENTATION OF STANDARDIZED COLOR-CODED PATIENT WRISTBANDS			
EFFECTIVE DATE: November 15, 2023	REVISION DUE: November 14, 2026	REPLACES NUMBER: N/A	NO. OF PAGES: 1 of 9
APPLIES TO: All Medical and Nursing Service Division		POLICY TYPE: Multi disciplinary	

PURPOSE:

1. The color-coded wristbands are used in the hospital to convey important information about patients to healthcare providers, staff, and visitors. These color-coded wristbands serve several purposes, including:
2. Provide guidance to healthcare providers to quickly and accurately identify patients' risks and conditions.
3. Identify risks for patient safety through the color that corresponds to specific patient mobility restrictions or precautions that need to be observed in order to prevent accidents or injuries.
4. Establish a basis for communicating critical information to healthcare providers to ensure the patient's wishes are respected.

DEFINITIONS:

The following represents the meaning of each color-coded wristbands:

COLOR	INDICATION
YELLOW	RISK FOR FALL
RED	WITH ALLERGY
BLUE	DNAR STATUS
PINK	RESTRICTED LIMB

1. **Yellow** – indicates that the patient is at risk for fall.
2. **Red** – indicates that the patient has allergy to either food, medication, latex or other allergens.
3. **Blue** – indicates that the patient of the folks of the patient opted to place the patient in a DNAR or Do Not Attempt Resuscitation status. DNAR status should be reconfirmed with a written orders regarding the usage of advanced directives must be verified as well.
4. **Pink** – indicates that the patient has a restricted limb/s and should be placed on that specific limb area.

RESPONSIBILITY:

All Medical and Nursing Service Division





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POLICY:

1. The patient upon admission and prior application of the color-coded wristband shall be assessed and identified using the two (2) unique identifiers. Identifiers may include the patient's legal name, date of birth, and any other identifiers consistent with hospital policy.
2. The Color-coded Wristband is and will not be considered a substitute for an identification wristband.
3. Color-coded wristbands will serve as cues for the healthcare team regarding the patient's current medical condition. Identification and verification of the patient's medical record is required prior to wristband application.
 - 3.1 The wrist is the primary site for the application of wristbands. The ankle may be used as an alternative in cases where application in the wristband is not feasible.
 - 3.2 If in any instance the wristband is removed, a replacement must be applied by the nurse in charge, once properly verified with the doctor's order and in the alert indicators in the patient's chart.
4. The wristbands are applied by licensed health care providers and may only be removed by them as well upon the patient's discharge.
5. Proper and accurate usage of the color-coded wristbands should be verified in any change of care and based on doctor's order regarding changes of the patient's condition.





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PROCEDURE (SOP):

APPLICATION OF COLOR-CODED WRISTBAND:

1. The staff nurse of the Emergency Department will be tasked to apply the wristband after the patient's history is completed and verified. The nurse in charge of the patient will adhere to the following guidelines:
 - 1.1 Identify the patient's name; it is possible to let them spell the name for further clarification and determine if there are any suffixes attached to the name.
 - 1.2 Ask the patient to state his/her date of birth.
 - 1.3 If there are any wristbands or bracelets that are contrary to the hospital's policy, the nurse in charge must ask for the patient/folks' consent that these will be removed.
 - 1.4 Educate the patient, family members, and personal caregivers of the patients regarding the purpose and the meaning of the color-coded wristbands worn. It is also significant to include that the institution's meaning behind the wristbands may or may not be the same as other hospitals in the country or abroad.
2. Document necessary data in the patient's medical record.
3. Verify the patient's responses and place the wristband on the patient's wrist. Exception of this is the application of the Pink Wristband in which it will be applied to the limb that is restricted only.
4. To promote patient comfort and maintain one's skin integrity, two to three finger breadths may be used as an allowance depending on the patient's size of the wrist. Ensure that the wristband is clipped securely and not easily removable but comfortable for the patient at the same time.
5. Ensure that the patient's wristband is properly included to the endorsement and is securely attached before transition to the patient's assigned room in the ward.

USAGE OF THE COLOR- CODED WRISTBAND:

1. The nurse in charge is tasked to verify that the wristband worn by the patient does reflect his/her current medical condition. If changes based on doctor's order is made, the nurse in charge will immediately change the necessary data to the patient's medical record and change the wristband if necessary.





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2. The patient's wristbands may only be removed upon the patient's discharge and with that a written discharge order from the attending physicians. The nurse in charge may inform the patient, family members, and caregivers to destroy and discard the wristband upon removal as this may contain patient's personal information.
3. In any event that the wristband is required to be removed for a procedure or treatment, a nurse will be responsible for its removal. Once the treatment has been complete, a new wristband may be made after reconfirming the patient risks. The wristband must be reapplied immediately. This same technique is applied if the patient has more than one wristbands.

IMPLEMENTATION AND EDUCATION:

1. Implementation of this policy shall take place immediately and will be subject for revision as deemed necessary.
2. This will be included to the training and education of the newly hired nurses as a part of their curriculum during their preparation prior transitioning to the assigned ward or area. Further teachings and lectures about this new practice shall take effect and will be included to the monthly nursing service division meeting.





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WORK INSTRUCTION:

KEY TASKS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
APPLICATION OF COLOR-CODED WRISTBAND	
1. Asked to apply the wristband after the patient's history is completed and verified.	ER Nurse
2. Identify the patient's name.	
3. Ask the patient to state his/her date of birth.	Nurse in charge
4. Educate the patient, family members, and personal caregivers of the patients regarding the purpose and the meaning of the color-coded wristbands worn	
5. Document necessary data in the patient's medical record.	
6. Verify the patient's responses and place the wristband on the patient's wrist.	
7. Ensure that the patient's wristband is properly included to the endorsement and is securely attached before transition to the patient's assigned room in the ward.	
USAGE OF THE COLOR- CODED WRISTBAND	
8. Tasked to verify that the wristband worn by the patient does reflect his/her current medical condition.	Nurse in charge
9. Informs the patient, family members, and caregivers to destroy and discard the wristband upon removal as this may contain patient's personal information.	
10. In any event that the wristband is required to be removed for a procedure or treatment he/she will responsible for its removal.	





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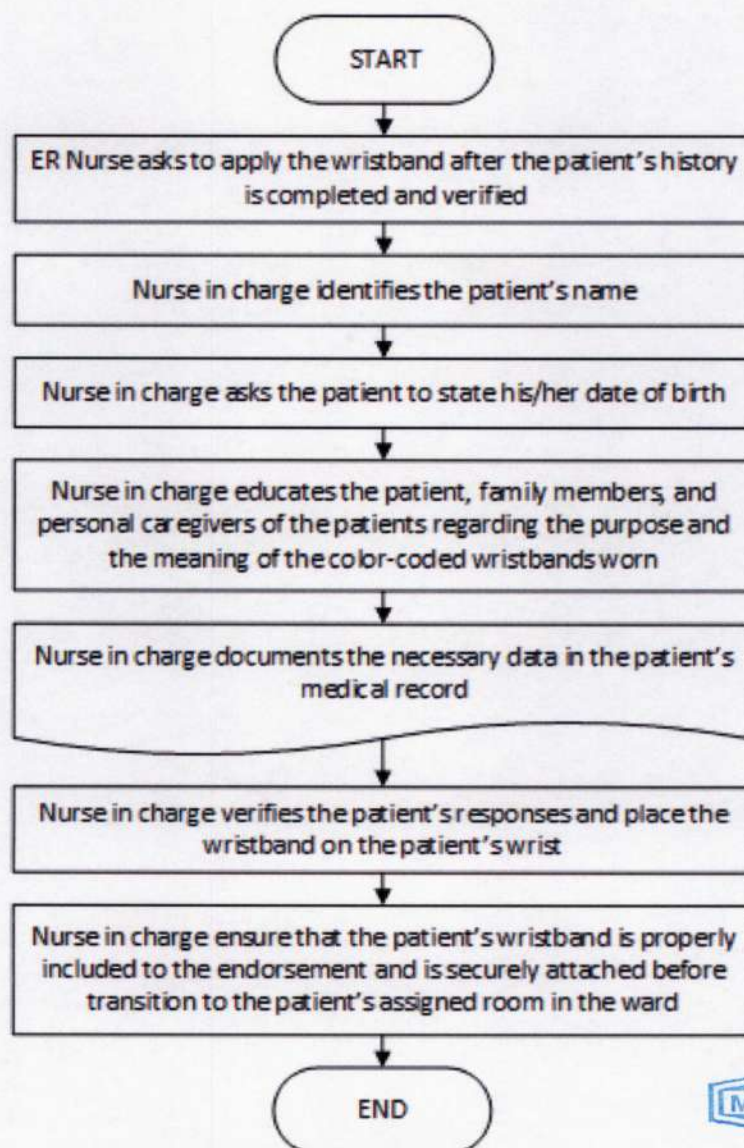


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WORK FLOW:

APPLICATION OF COLOR-CODED WRISTBAND





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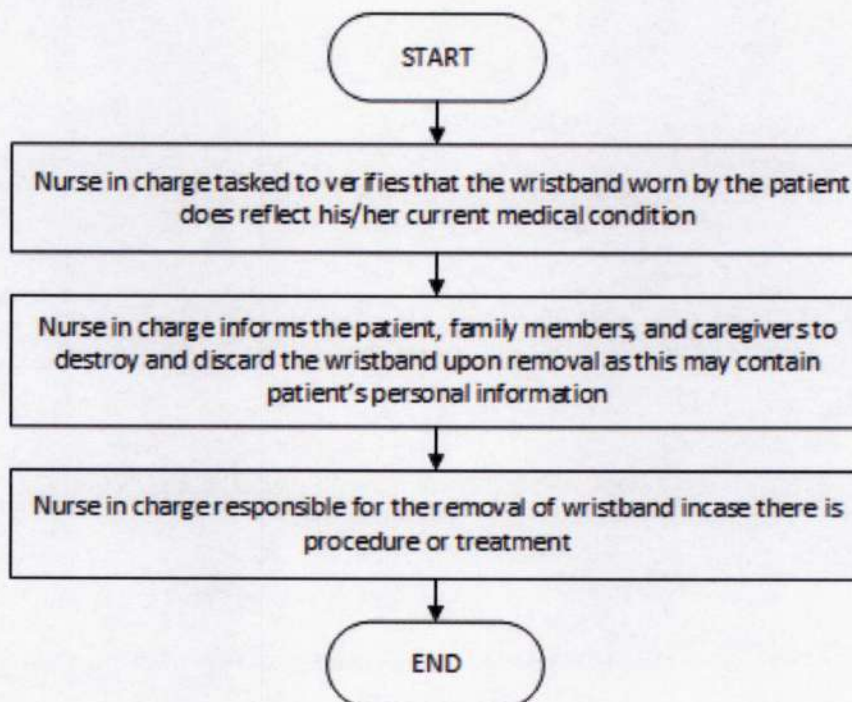
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USAGE OF THE COLOR- CODED WRISTBAND



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FORMS: N/A
EQUIPMENT: N/A
REFERENCES: N/A





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