

Title: Active Shooter Plan	Emergency Management Plan Appendix I
Manual: Emergency Management	Effective Date: 1-22-15
Scope: Hospital Wide	Replaces: NEW
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PURPOSE:

To promote a safe environment for patients, visitors and staff in the event of an active shooter.

POLICY:

Dignity Health St. Mary Medical Center will maintain guidelines to ensure the safety of patients, staff and visitors in the event of an Active Shooter. The whole community approach involves staff patients and visitors.

PROCEDURE:

Health Care Facilities are bound to provide procedures to plan for emergencies of all kinds including hostage taking, weapons on campus of a hospital and active shooter. An active shooter is an individual(s) engaged in harming, killing or attempting to kill persons in a confined and populated area. The most common locations are a workplace, school or hospital and the most common weapon is a firearm. Active shooter situations are unpredictable and evolve rapidly. Law enforcement agencies are trained to respond to active shooter incidents and will act quickly to stop the shooter(s). Medical Centers by the nature of their existence have become a target for hostile upset people who turn to violence. Training and education is key to successfully survive active shooter events. Historically these events are over within 10- 15 minutes but may end before law enforcement is able to address the threat.

Safety is the first priority. Staff are trained throughout the year with the Run Hide Fight Video from Homeland Security. The most important thing to remember is to stay calm. Persons closest to danger should be removed first. Code Silver should be called by PBX operator by calling 11. Other staff should avoid the area.

Mass Notification by Everbridge or Xmatters will be used to notify all staff and departments of location of the shooter.

High risk patients who should be considered to assist to safety include the elderly, pediatric patients, pregnant women, NICU infants, individuals with disabilities, homeless and individuals with chronic mental illnesses or pharmacological dependencies.

Staff at St. Mary Medical Center will notify security by dialing 11 or directly calling 911 when they are safely hidden from harm's way. Staff will calmly provide the following information to 911 dispatch:

- Location of the active shooter. (Address of hospital, location in building, which area of the hospital the active shooter was seen in)
- Number of shooter(s)
- Brief physical description of the shooter(s)
- Their location that they are making the call from
- Number of potential victims at the location

1. Evacuate (Run)

If there is an accessible escape path, attempt to evacuate the premises. Be sure to:

- Warn individuals not to enter an area where the active shooter may be.
- Have an escape route and plan in mind.
- Evacuate regardless of whether others agree to follow.
- Leave your belongings behind.
- Help others escape, if possible.
- Keep your hands visible.
- Follow the instructions of any police officers.

2. Hide (Cover in a safe place)

If safe evacuation is not possible, find a place to hide where the active shooter is less likely to find you. Consider the difference between cover and concealment. Cover will protect from gunfire and concealment will merely hide you from the view of the shooter. Choose the best space that is available quickly.

To prevent an active shooter from entering your hiding place:

- Lock the door.
- Do not choose a room with a window in it
- Blockade the door with heavy furniture.
- Close, cover, and move away from windows.
- Silence your cell phone and/or pager. (Even the vibration setting can give away a

hiding position.)

- Hide behind large items (i.e., cabinets, desks).
- Remain quiet.

3. Take Action (Fight)

As an absolute last resort, and only when your life is in imminent danger, attempt to disrupt and/or incapacitate the active shooter:

- Act as aggressively as possible against him/her.
- Throw items and improvise weapons.
- Commit to your actions.

Remember the first responders who arrive are not there for rescue activities but to take out the shooter as tactical teams from Law Enforcement. All staff and patients should remain calm and in place until they get an “all clear” from the Police Department and an overhead page that Code Silver has been cleared.

4. Education

All active shooter drills will be held on units in coordination with evacuation and fire trainings. St. Mary Medical Center has taken the following opportunities to train and drill in efforts to gain staff awareness and education:

- Drills on units with video showing Run Hide Fight
- Placing Dignity Health Shots Fired Video on computers
- Education in Hospital Orientation about security and drills
- Active Shooter drills with schools, fire departments and surrounding community agencies that staff can participate in
- CSULB Active Shooter Drill
- Naval Weapons Station Drills
- Triennial Airport drills in Long Beach involving shooting, fire arms and acts of terrorism

Reference: Incorporating Active Shooter Incident Planning into Health Care Facility Emergency Operations Plans- Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) Department of Justice, Homeland Security and FEMA- 2014