

**Title:** Notification of Nursing Personnel by RCMS of Telemetry Issues and Patient Arrhythmias #5

**Responsibility:** RCMS Monitor Technician

**Purpose of Guidelines:** To identify the priority alarms and the process the RCMS will use to notify nursing personnel of all high priority alarms.

**Procedure:**

1. The RN caring for the patient will be notified immediately by the RCMS Monitor Technician by phone for the following conditions:

- Sustained new onset extreme bradycardia which is defined as <30 beats per minute.
- Sustained ventricular tachycardia which is defined as longer than 10 seconds.
- Sustained ventricular fibrillation.
- Asystole.
- SVT (Sinus Tach, Atrial Tach included) greater than or equal to 130 beats per minute for at least one minute.

Any other significant change in patient rhythm that the RCMS Monitor Technician feels may indicate a patient emergency.

2. The RN caring for the patient will be notified by the RCMS Monitor Technician within 3-5 minutes for patients being off monitor, battery inoperable and poor EKG signal via the following procedure using the regular phone:

- First call is made to the RN phone.
- If not resolved after 10 minutes, another call will be made to the RNs phone.
- If not resolved after 10 minutes, a call will be placed to the Charge RN on the unit.
- If not resolved after 10 minutes, a call will be placed to the Nursing Director of the unit or the Administrative Coordinator (House Supervisor) on the off-shifts and weekends.
- RCMS will note and document each call placed and to whom the message was given.

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Director Cardiovascular Services

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03/16/2022

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Director, Non-Invasive Cardiac Imaging

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Christine Stesney-Ridenour, FACHE  
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