

Manual:	Emergency Preparedness	Reference No.:	011010.00
Section:	Code Purple – Hostage/Intruder		
Subject:	Hostage Taking		

POLICY:

When a hostage situation occurs, staff should follow the necessary steps as outlined below.

PROCEDURE:

The staff member who observes the event taking place should proceed as follows:

- Do not try to intervene;
- give guidance, observe situation and be prepared to report information (i.e. number of hostages, number of residents, etc.)
- use common sense and good judgement;
- notify Charge Nurse.

Hostage taking management - general rules:

- clear and contain area;
- notify police immediately - 911;
- talk calmly to hostage taker;
- stall for time - NEVER say NO;
- summon staff who may know hostage taker;
- If the intruder or hostage taker requests narcotics give the person whatever they request.
- DO NOT give food and drink that have been altered to hostage taker;
- if possible evacuate all residents from area, if not possible, residents should remain in their room, closing their doors;
- notify Executive Director.

Guidelines for hostages:

- try to remain calm and relaxed;
- avoid aggressive behaviour, stance or body language;

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- remain alert for opportunities for rapport with hostage taker and for escape;
- avoid food and drink offered by the hostage taker;
- stay clear of windows and doors.