

**Good Samaritan Health & Wellness Center**  
Policies and Procedures

Subject: Recognition and Management of Medical Emergencies      Policy #: 7.4

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## 7.4 Recognition and Management of Medical Emergencies

### **POLICY:**

It is the policy of Good Samaritan Health & Wellness Center Dental Clinic to simplify recognition and management of emergencies at Good Samaritan Health & Wellness Center.

### **PROCEDURE:**

All dental staff members should be able to recognize immediately the first symptoms of syncope, allergy or other medical emergencies. Upon recognition of life threatening emergencies the attending dentist shall ceased treatment and immediately call for medical aid and commence appropriate measures for the patient's wellbeing. All dental staff members are expected to remain current in accepted emergency procedures in the dental office and be current in CPR techniques.

### **1.1 PREVENTION:**

- Good (current) medical history.
- Premedication if necessary.
- Medical consultation if necessary.

- Patient positioning and reassurance.

### **1.2 In all Emergencies:**

- Diagnose the condition.
- Clear airway.
- Give oxygen (except in hyper-ventilation).
- Be prepared to call for medical assistance or 911.

### **1.3 Toxic Reactions:**

- Severe allergic responses to local anesthetics
- Anaphylactic reaction
- Cardiac arrest
- Angina pectoris
- Syncope
- Epileptic seizure

At the first sign that the patient cannot be managed, medical assistance should be called immediately. Dentists should familiarize themselves with available medications, CPR, and other treatment they may feel might be required in handling an office emergency. In the event of a life-threatening emergency, the following procedure will be followed:

- The dentist will initiate emergency medical procedures until relieved by more experienced personnel or until the emergency condition is resolved.
- 911 will be contacted. The Dental Director will be immediately notified of the emergency situation in progress.

- The person who calls 911 will then proceed to the front of the clinic to direct the Emergency Response Team to the emergency location within the dental clinic.
- Where possible, obtain additional professional assistance for the attending staff member.
- Standby to perform any additional duties as may be required.

All personnel not needed will stay out of the hallways and the treatment area. They will reassure other patients that the situation is under control and ask them to remain in the waiting areas.