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PROCEDURE	Manual: Department	Section: Cardiac	Code No.: C T012	Old Code No.: T4- PRO
Title: Telemetry - Application and Discontinuation of			Original Effective Date: Mar 31, 2000	
			Review/Revised Effective Date: Mar 03, 2010	
			Next Review Date: Mar 01, 2013	
Cross Index: Telemetry Monitoring - Criteria For	Authoring Committee/Program/Dept: Medical Cardiology Clinical Service Team		Approved By: AMC	

Purpose:

- To provide continuous cardiac monitoring for those patients who are ambulatory in the cardiac department.
- To record cardiac activity for diagnostic and documentation purposes
- To enable the treatment of arrhythmias

Responsibility:

- RN in cardiac department
- RPN as per C.N.O. Standards. Refer to "A Decision Guide/Determining the Appropriate Category of Care Provider." (May 2009).

Equipment:

- ECG monitor (central and/or bedside monitor and/or telemetry)
- Telemetry Pack/Patient cable
- Lead wires
- Electrodes
- Alcohol swabs
- Clippers

Method:

- Enter Patient's name, doctor & room number on the screen
- Place electrodes close to the limb-torso junction. This placement allows easier access for defibrillation, auscultation, CPR, etc.
- Obtain and analyze rhythm strip on admission, q shift and with any change in rhythm or in patient's condition
- Record rate and rhythm in electronic documentation q shift and PRN.
- Evaluate skin integrity daily and change electrodes q48h and prn

- Rotate electrode sites
- Telemetry for 24 hrs the MD or NP reassess daily.

When discontinuing telemetry:

- Remove pack from patient
- Remove electrodes
- Remove battery from pack and discard
- Unassign patient from central monitor
- Store telemetry packs in designated area on unit after cleaning according to current infection prevention and control standards

Special Considerations:

- Not Applicable

References:

- Boggs, R.L. & Wooldridge – King, M. (1993). AACN Procedure Manual for Critical Care (3rdEd.), "Electrophysiologic Monitoring" Hardwire and Telemetry", p 237
- McKinley, M.G. (2006). Electrophysiologic Monitoring: Hardwire and Telemetry. In Lynn-McHale Wiegand, D.J. & Carlson, K.K. (Eds.), *AACN procedure manual for critical care* (pp. 410-420). St. Louis, Missouri: Elsevier Saunders.

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