



# THE COLORS OF SAFETY

ACROSS THE CONTINUUM OF CARE

## Purpose

The *Colors of Safety Across the Continuum of Care* initiative is intended to enhance patient safety by standardizing the color-coding of specific alert conditions across acute and long term care settings. Additionally, this initiative seeks to spread the awareness of the meaning of the various color-coded identifiers used in these health care settings to both clinical and non-clinical staff.

The *Colors of Safety Across the Continuum of Care* will include standardization for the following three alert conditions and colors:

| Alert Condition          |   | Color  |
|--------------------------|---|--------|
| Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) | → | Purple |
| Allergies                | → | Red    |
| Fall Risk                | → | Yellow |

## How to Become Involved

It is important that family members, patients, and residents are aware of this color-coding standardization because they have the opportunity to keep the hospital and long term care staff aware of particular health conditions. For example, if a patient or resident has a certain allergy or is at risk for falls, it is important to share this information with the staff as early as possible. Additionally, if a patient or resident has an advance directive, they must notify the staff immediately and provide documentation of this directive.