

# Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center

**GENERAL CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTER**

**Telemetry Monitoring on the GCRC**

**Policy No.: 130**

**Original Date: Oct. 13, 1998**

**Previous Date: None**

**Revised Date: None**

Purpose: To provide standards of care and documentation for subjects requiring continuous EKG waveform and electrical cardiac activity observation and evaluation.

1. The responsibilities of the GCRC Licensed Nursing staff will include:
  - a. Documentation of the cardiac rhythm as specified in the research protocol
  - b. Validation and documentation at least once a shift that the heart rate alarm is set
  - c. Routine rhythm strips at least every 4 hours for subjects ordered telemetry monitoring
  - d. Obtain rhythm strips when cardiac symptoms warrant or the HR alarm indicates a status change
  - e. Insertion and maintenance of intravenous access for duration of telemetry monitoring
  - f. Notification of the Principal Investigator or appropriate personnel of changes in rhythm or monitoring difficulty
2. Rhythm strips - Strips for those subjects on telemetry are taped to the subject's telemetry log sheet along with the following information:
  - a. Subject's last name and first initial
  - b. Date and time of strip
  - c. Rhythm and rate interpretation
  - d. PR interval, QRS duration, and QT interval
  - e. When appropriate, the date and time of the Principal Investigator/designee of rhythm changes
  - f. Initials of staff
3. Documentation:
  - a. Rhythm and heart rates are to be documented hourly on the telemetry log sheet.
  - b. Telemetry log sheets will be kept in a designated notebook or section in the subject's chart. The Principal Investigator or designee will be responsible to check the monitor sheets on a daily basis.
  - c. The telemetry log sheets are part of the subject's permanent medical record.
4. The GCRC Nurse assigned to the subject will be responsible for assuring correct lead placement, correct operation of the telemetry unit and battery replacement as needed. The GCRC Nurse assigned to the subject over the 24 period will be recorded on the telemetry log each shift.
5. In situations where the subject must leave the GCRC and monitoring is no longer in effect, the GCRC Nurse must document the time and reason the subject is off the GCRC on the telemetry log. Telemetry monitoring will resume immediately on the subject's return and a rhythm strip run and documented.

Originator: Associate Program Director, GCRC  
Clinical Nurse Specialist, GCRC

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Pamela Ouyang, MD  
Program Director, GCRC

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Lisa Nummi, MSN, ARNP, RN  
Director of Nursing, Emergency Dept., JHBMC

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