

Patient Armband Alert System

Inova has implemented a standardized patient armband system that will help ensure consistent recognition of special patient care needs. This standardization is part of a nationwide initiative and will help ensure that from hospital to hospital – here at Inova and across the country – patient armbands convey consistent color-coded alerts to all staff. This will improve patient safety and reduce potential confusion and possible medical errors associated with the use of different colors throughout the state and country.

The color codes are as follows:

ALLERGY ALERT	RED = Allergies (Allergy Alert)
FALL ALERT	YELLOW = At risk for falling
AND/DNAR	PURPLE = AND/DNAR (Allow a Natural Death/Do Not Attempt Resuscitation)
DEAF/HOH/TRANSLATE	ORANGE = Deaf/Hard of Hearing/Needs a translator
ANTI-COAGULATION	GREEN = Anti-coagulation

Remember, armbands and other color-coded tools are **only** alerts. The patient chart and computerized record are the primary sources for correct patient status regarding these conditions. Look there for details about the patient's allergies, risk for falling, resuscitation status, and hearing ability.

Additional Tools

In addition to the color-coded arm bands, other tools will be in place to support clear alerts to care givers about these patient conditions.

- Stickers
- Magnetic indicators on door frames
- Door slides

The patient chart is the best place to identify these special patient conditions.

PRINT NAME

DATE

SIGNATURE