



## Employees Must Respond to *Yellow Sky*

### **Yellow Sky** new code for tornado response.

UK Hospital has added a new code to its emergency paging plan. *Yellow Sky*, the new code for tornado response, will be used to alert Hospital employees that a tornado warning has been issued for Fayette County.

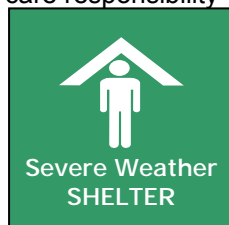
When employees hear the *Yellow Sky* announcement, they will initiate the tornado response plan and begin moving patients, visitors, and themselves to areas of safety within the building.

Specifically, patient care staff is required to:

- Move ambulatory patients out of their rooms to an interior corridor.
- Turn patients away from the window and cover them with a blanket, if they cannot be moved into the corridor.
- Close all corridor and patient room doors.
- Remain in an interior corridor until the storm has passed and a *Yellow Sky All Clear* has been announced.

Employees who do not have patient care responsibility are required to:

- Move to an interior area.
- Close the doors.



### **What do the green signs mean?**

The green signs that are located throughout the hospital designate areas that meet the criteria for a severe weather shelter. The criteria for a shelter in a high-rise building, such as the hospital, are fairly simple:

- Interior area
- Below the top two floors.

### **To stay safe...**

## Learn to Identify the Signs of a Tornado

**Although tornadoes have occurred in every month, spring and early summer are considered tornado season in Central Kentucky.**

If strange clouds start moving in and the weather begins to look stormy, turn to the local radio or television station to get the weather forecast. Check [The Weather Channel](#) for additional information. At the university, UK Police monitor a ["NOAA weather radio"](#) to ensure up-to-the minute information is available to responders.

- A tornado **"watch"** means that a tornado is "possible."
- A tornado **"warning"** means that a tornado has actually been spotted or is strongly indicated on radar.

Be alert to what is happening outside as well. Look or listen for:

- A sickly greenish or yellowish color to the sky.
- Hail during a tornado watch or warning.
- A strange quiet that occurs within or shortly after the thunderstorm.
- Clouds moving by very fast, especially in a rotating pattern or converging toward one area of the sky.
- The sound of rushing air that turns into a roar as it comes closer.
- Debris dropping from the sky.
- An obvious "funnel-shaped" cloud that is rotating, or debris such as branches or leaves being pulled upwards, even if no funnel cloud is visible.

A funnel cloud that is not moving to the right or to the left relative to trees or power poles in the distance may be moving toward you.

# UK Hospital Emergency Paging Codes

Emergency Situation	Code	Required Response
Fire	<b>Green Grass</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Listen for location of alarm.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Close all doors lining the corridor.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Clear corridor of obstructions.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Listen for additional instructions.</li> </ul>
Tornado	<b>Yellow Sky</b>	Move yourself and others to safe, interior location.
Mass Casualty Disaster	<b>Alert 1</b>	Respond based on your assignment.
HazMat Incident	<b>HazMat</b>	Respond if you have an assignment.
Shelter-in-place	<b>Black Cloud</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Close and lock all exterior windows and doors.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Move yourself and others to interior location, away from doors and windows.</li> </ul> <p>If you have additional duties, respond based on assignment.</p>
Cardiac Arrest	<b>Code 500</b>	Code 500 team responds, based on assignments.
Combative Individual	<b>Assistance Please</b>	Crisis intervention teams responds, based on assignments.
Infant Abduction	<b>Code Teddy Bear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Look for suspicious persons or activities.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Proceed to nearest exit point from area (stairwell, elevator lobby, exterior door) and establish checkpoint to assess those entering and leaving area.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Detain anyone who is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Carrying an infant.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Carrying a large package or bag that could conceal an infant.</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Hurrying though building or rushing toward an exit.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Report all suspicious activity to Security, 3-6156, immediately.</li> </ul>
HEICS Activation	<b>No Code</b>	Hospital employees with HEICS assignments will be notified by paging or section chief.
Command Center Activation	<b>Command Center Team Please Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Hospital employees with first-tier HEICS assignments report to Command Center. This includes incident commander, safety officer, security officer, liaison, and section chiefs.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> If you have an HEICS assignment, but are not a part of the first tier, do not respond until activated by section chief.</li> </ul>

This newsletter is distributed to STCs and other Hospital leaders to help them fulfill their safety responsibilities.

