

Banding together for patient safety



At Charles Cole Memorial Hospital, our patients' health and safety are our top priority. Our staff is dedicated to providing high quality care that is safe, effective, patient-centered, timely, efficient, and equitable.

Our hospital is one among many in the state to step up and take your safety to a new level.

Many hospitals use color banding. However, this system establishes a uniform color system for all hospitals with the goal of eliminating confusion among professionals, who may have used other color systems, or patients wearing fashion/special cause bands.

Standardizing colored wrist bands to support patient safety

Pennsylvania hospitals are now adopting a select number of colored wrist bands to identify patients with risk factors associated with falls, allergies, restricted extremity, or DNR orders.

Charles Cole Memorial Hospital is one of the many Pennsylvania hospitals who have chosen to participate in a patient safety initiative aimed at reducing the risks to patients with the use of colored wristbands. The uniform color band system will be utilized within the hospital so that a patient's risk factor is immediately recognized and appropriate care is administered.

Band color

Red	Allergy
Yellow	Fall Risk
Green	Latex Allergy
Purple	DNR
Pink	Restricted Extremity

Assessing Your Risk

Patients will be assessed for risk factors upon admission at Charles Cole Memorial Hospital. Should a risk be identified, the appropriately colored wrist band will be placed on the same arm as the ID band.

If the patient is wearing any other type of band, he/she will be asked to remove it or cover it with medical tape to avoid any confusion when care is administered.

Medical personnel will reconfirm the wrist band prior to procedures, treatment, transfer, or changes in care.

How Can You Help?

- Remove any community (fashion or special cause) wristbands while in the hospital to avoid any possible confusion among these bands and those used for purposes of your health care.
- Only wear the wristband placed by hospital staff.
- Tell hospital staff about any allergies you may have, if you have a tendency to lose your balance, and if you have an Advance Directive.
- Tell a nurse if a wristband falls off during your stay.