

# September EC Highlights

## This month's focus is on fire!

**PLEASE REMEMBER:** In the event of an evacuation, staff should move items such as isolation carts, CODE carts, etc out of the corridors and into patient rooms for clear, unobstructed access to exits.

In ambulatory spaces, exit pathways should be clear of obstructions at all times.

**Can you describe what to do in the event of a fire?** You should know to “R.A.C.E.”: where alarm pull stations and extinguishers are; find and use your Emergency Resource Books and other emergency resources, as necessary.

**Do you know the fire compartment features of the area?** In case of fire you should prepare to evacuate or Defend In Place. In hospital buildings, look for fire decals on door frames to get to the next fire protection compartment. For all other buildings, you should be able to explain how you would prepare to evacuate.



**Has your department discussed or been provided education on evacuation plans and routes?** This is a topic that should be covered in department meetings at least once a year. Employees need to know when and how to evacuate the area, what the potential routes are, and to assemble for roll call once they've exited the building.

**There must be a supply of flashlights, batteries (and, for inpatient areas, manual call bells) in every area.** Where are yours?



**If you have questions about this information or need details, ask your manager!**



**Every month** rounds include observation of four problem areas:

- 100% of staff must wear their photo ID.
- Doors must not be blocked open.
- Combustibles must be in compliance with regulations.
- Corridors must be clear of clutter.

Joint Commission - Environment of Care Standards guide OHSU in this material. The Environment of Care Committee offers this tool to help remind employees of safety polices and best practices. Questions? (503.494.7795). **Please post or share this information with staff.**