Novant Health is committed to providing a safe environment for patients, visitors, and staff. The Security Alert policy is to provide a process for clinical staff to access prior known safety and security information relevant to current patients to provide a safe environment for our patients, visitors, and staff. The safety alert can be initiated for history of Domestic/Intimate Partner Violence, Elder Abuse, Child Abuse, Infant/Child Abduction Risk, and/or Public Safety Events/Public Safety Event.

Once a security alert is in place:
- Direct care givers and public safety officers will be aware of past abuse, abduction risk, or violent/disruptive behavior in our facility associated with a patient or patient visitor.
- A “Security Alert” with the following information will be noted in the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) or the patient’s chart during the current admission and future admissions.

Nursing staff on the unit, nursing leaders and Public Safety will partner to develop an individualized safety plan for the patient if indicated by a review of the history and current assessments. The safety plan will be documented on the Interdisciplinary Plan of Care (IPOC).

All patients will be screened upon arrival in accordance with registration, triage, and pre-admission/admission policies.
- For a positive screen related to Domestic Violence, Elder Abuse, Child Abuse or Infant/Child Abduction risk a positive for domestic violence the nurse will assess the responses and evaluate the need to activate the “Security Alert”.
  ***Patients with any positive screen above will have a social work/case management consult ordered.
- Nurse or designee (i.e. Medical Unit Secretary) enters the “Security Alert” in the EMR.
- The “Security Alert” will be flag the patient’s record or print on the unit depending on the EMR being used.
- Nursing unit staff, nursing leader and Public Safety will partner to develop an individualized safety plan for the patient if indicated. Document plan in the Interdisciplinary IPOC.
- The nursing unit staff will consult with the nursing leader and Public Safety to remove the “Security Alert” if no longer valid or if at any time the patient situation changes.

Upon readmission the nursing unit will see a FYI flag for a previous admission (Dimensions); a “Security Alert” will print on the unit and in Public Safety (Net Access).
- Screen the patient per screening protocols,
- The nurse will further investigate the patient’s past medical and/or social history in the EMR or previous medical record.
- If needed, the nurse will consult with Public Safety to develop a safety plan or remove the “Security Alert” if no longer valid.

The health care team will actively listen and visually observe for high risk indicators that will prompt the necessity to rescreen the patient.
- If based on new findings/rescreen a security alert is needed follow the admission process.

Keep your eyes and ears open. If you see something, say something.

See your facilities Security Alert Plan and discuss with your leaders for your part.