

RTU OFFICER TRAINING AID

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

RTU Coordinator Name	Phone
Unit Manager Name	Phone
Other Name	Phone
Psychiatric Nurse Supervisor Name	Phone

GIVE YOUR ATTENTION TO ESCALATING AND POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS SITUATIONS

- Threatening or violent behavior directed toward others
 - Follow UOF Policy to deescalate first whenever possible
 - Use your interpersonal skills and understanding
- Poor hygiene or dirty cell
 - Often a sign that the resident's mental health is declining
 - Make note of this observation and communicate it with MH staff
- Observation of self harm
 - Interrupt the activity with verbal orders and with force if necessary
 - Notify mental health nurse and shift supervisor

POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

- Psychiatric Nurses are assigned to RTU around the clock.
 - They are your partner and are there to support you. They should be visible on the unit and available to help.
- Quality Rounds are important everywhere in a prison and can mean life or death in an RTU.
 - Don't take short cuts
 - Give verbal direction to see face, hands, arms, legs as necessary to ensure safety of the resident
- RTU Phases look like this:
 - Phase 1 – new admission; likely unstable
 - Phase 2 – increasing privileges and movement
 - Phase 3 – increasing privileges and movement; good stability
 - Phase 4 – almost ready or waiting for discharge
- Most RTUs have safe cells for watch precautions
 - RTU Officer may be responsible for observation & documentation on close watch and Mental Health Special Observation Status (MHSOS)

FACILITY-SPECIFIC GUIDANCE (ie: communication tools, unit resources, peer support utilization, programming schedules, movement, emergency response equipment location, treatment phases, recreation, meals, off unit activities, treatment team, etc.)