



Staff Alert Pendant Education

Occupational Health and Safety
Spring 2017

Why am I getting a Staff Alert Pendant?

By law, RVH must develop measures that control and prevent workplace violence. This must be done in collaboration with the Joint Health and Safety Committee (JHSC), **made up of RVH clinical and non-clinical workers from all unions.**

With more patient violence occurring, the JHSC requested another tool for drawing immediate attention when violence is occurring or imminent.

The **Staff Alert Pendants** have been endorsed by the JHSC as the latest addition to RVH's Workplace Violence Prevention Program. These are the ones used at Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care.

What is a Staff Alert Pendant?

The pendant is a **small device that emits a very loud sound** when the pin is pulled.

It does not transmit a signal or initiate a Code White. **It is strictly a noise-making device**, used to immediately draw attention to yourself. It is another way to call for help when you can't reach a phone or fixed Code White button.

If you are **being attacked or if violence is imminent**, pull the pendant from its pin. It will emit a loud noise, immediately alerting people around you to the situation.



Where do I wear it?

✓ CORRECT ✓

The pendants are a mandatory part of your RVH uniform.

You must attach the pendant to your clothing in the **upper left quadrant** (the same location as your badge).

It can be attached **directly to your clothing** or to the **top of your badge.**

It must be well anchored so that when you pull the body of the pendant, its pin remains attached to you (to activate it).

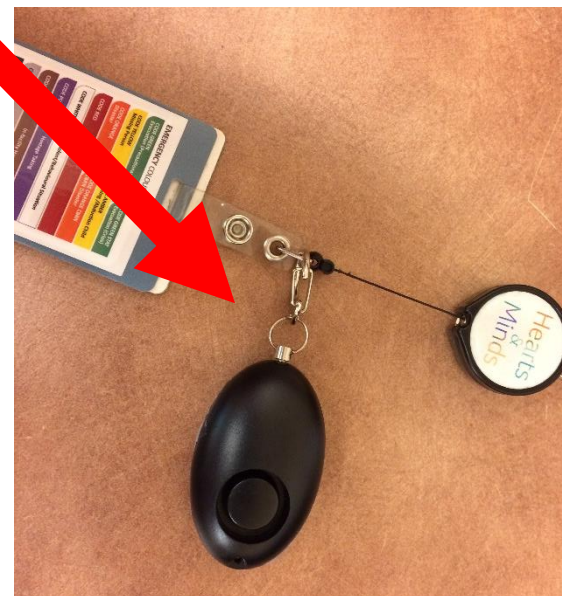


Where do I wear it?

xxINCORRECTxx

To prevent accidental activation and to ensure you can reach it quickly when needed, please **do not wear** your pendant:

- At your waist
- On the retractable part of your badge attachment
- In your pocket



How do I respond when I hear one?

If you hear a pendant going off:

- If you are close to a phone, **dial 55 to initiate a Code White** THEN run to assist the person who pulled the pendant
OR
- If you wear a **portable Code White button** or have a **fixed Code White button** on your unit, **press it** (and hold for the required duration of time) **to initiate a Code White** THEN run to assist the person who pulled the pendant
OR
- If you are not close to a phone or Code White button, immediately run to assist the person who pulled the pendant

How do I test my pendant?

It is **mandatory** to **test your pendant before every shift** to ensure it is working. This is your responsibility and for your protection.

Please do not test your pendant in a busy area! Do it in a washroom, staff locker room or other unoccupied area.

COMPLETELY COVER THE SPEAKER BY PALMING IT AND WRAPPING YOUR HAND AROUND IT TO MUFFLE THE SOUND.

PULL THE PIN OUT.
HEAR THE SOUND?
IT'S WORKING.
NO SOUND?
IT'S NOT WORKING.

FIRMLY PUSH THE PIN BACK IN (HARD CLICK), ATTACH IT TO YOUR CLOTHES, GOOD TO GO.



How do I take care of my pendant?

If it doesn't work when you test your pendant (previous slide), you can get a new one at no cost. BUT if you lose it, you will be charged for a new one.

From Occupational Health and Safety (room 1452, Mon-Fri, 0800-1600) or Security Services (any other time).

Write your name on it now. It's yours. Please take care of it:

- Don't expose it to extreme temperatures (don't leave it in your car when it's really hot or really cold out)
- Don't get it wet or try to wash it