Quick Look Procedure Resource for NON–CRITICAL CARE staff

What to do if the ECG monitor alarms

WHEN TO PERFORM
1. On hearing the ECG monitor alarm

HOW TO PERFORM
a) Look at monitor and check heart rate
b) Is the rate between 60 - 100
c) Are the chest electrodes attached and in the correct position
d) Does the rhythm look like a Sinus Rhythm?
e) Do you need to perform a 12 lead ECG

KEY SAFETY CONCERNS/WHEN TO CALL FOR HELP
1. Heart Rate < 60 bpm: call for help
2. Heart Rate > 100 bpm: call for help
3. Blood Pressure ↓: call for help
4. Change in patients’ level of consciousness: call for help
5. Patient complaining of chest pain: perform 12 lead ECG and call for help