

Section: Division of Nursing

* **PROCEDURE** *

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HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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ED
(Scope)

TITLE: CARDIAC MONITOR PROCEDURE

PURPOSE: To outline the procedure for placing ED patient(s) on telemetry monitoring to determine heart rate and rhythm.

SUPPORTIVE DATA: Used in patients complaining of chest pain, jaw and arm pain, lightheadedness, dizziness, difficult breathing, and patients with history of cardiac/respiratory problems.

- EQUIPMENT LIST:**
1. Cardiac monitor
 2. Red dot electrodes (5)
 3. Patient telemetry pack

CONTENT: PROCEDURE

KEY POINTS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain procedure to patient. 2. Connect five (5) "red dot" electrodes to each of leads on telemetry pack. 3. Peel covering from red dot electrodes and place in appropriate position on patient's chest, placing the V lead in the V₁ position. 4. Turn on overhead slave monitor. 5. If telemetry pack is used, program telemetry pack number into central console by entering room number, telemetry pack number, and patient's name if known. 6. Run monitor strip by pressing graph on telemetry pack or by missing room number on central station. 7. Place strip on chart. | <p>Knowledge of procedure will help patient relax--less muscle tremors recorded on strips.</p> <p>Leads are marked RA (white), RL (green), LA (black), LL (red), V lead (brown).</p> <p>May pre-program prior to arrival of patient where indicated.</p> |
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- DOCUMENTATION:**
8. Document the following:
 - a. Rate, rhythm
 - c. Ectopy or heart blocks
 - d. Time and date

Reference: Emergency Reference Manual 3rd Edition 2006. Mosby's.