

**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
LABORATORY POLICY MANUAL
COLOR CODED BANDING**

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Authority: Laboratory Director

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PURPOSE: Color coded bands serve as a way to quickly identify the condition of the patient. These bands serve as an “alert” and ensure the best possible care given by every staff member involved with that patient.

POLICY: There are **Five Color Coded Bands** that one might find on a patient. It is important to understand what each band means and how it affects the patient.

RED – ALLERGY : A red bracelet indicates that the patient has an allergy and the caregiver should make a point to stop and check with nurse to see what the allergy risk is.

YELLOW- FALL RISK : A yellow bracelet indicates that the patient needs to be assisted when walking or being transferred. These patients are generally weak either from illness or surgery. One might also find that they have a yellow blanket as well.

PURPLE – DNR ; A purple bracelet indicates Do Not Resuscitate. This is placed on the patient as per the patient’s wishes and to ensure that end – of – life wishes are granted.

PINK- RESTRICTED LIMB : A pink bracelet indicates that the patient’s arm should not be used for blood draws, blood pressures or for any medical reason.

GREEN – LATEX ALLERGY A green bracelet indicates a latex allergy. Even though we all use latex free equipment, it is important to ensure a safe environment for these patients.

Reference: N.J. Dept. Health Senior Services.