CONTROL AND MEDICAL COMPRESSED AIR:

CONTROL AIR / VACUUM FAILURE:

Failure of a control air system may cause a shut-down of critical equipment in the area served. Refer to policies in this section with instructions relative to a specific piece or type of equipment. Failure to follow instructions could put critical systems at risk.

1. Control Failure
   A. Check pneumatic-electric switch.
   B. On dual compressor models, check alternator switch.

2. Electrical Failure
   A. Check thermal overloads, fuses and or breakers.

3. Mechanical Failure
   A. Check belts and bearings, piping for leaks, pressure regulator.
   B. Check compressor(s) performance for signs of internal damage.

4. Drier Failure
   A. If water is present in the pneumatic piping, check the performance of the drier.

MEDICAL AIR PROCEDURE (See MUSC Policy Manual for Specifics):

1. MUSC Facility Operations - On-Call Personnel will:
   A. Open cross-tie valve to system operation.
   B. Locate source of problem and make repairs as necessary.
   C. Call in additional personnel, if needed.
   D. Activate emergency call list, if needed.

2. If repairs cannot be made in a reasonable amount of time (30 minutes or less), MUSC Facility Operations - Maintenance and Engineering will notify the following:
   A. Safety and Security
   B. Department of Respiratory Care
   C. Nursing
   D. Effected Area.

3. Respiratory Care will provide compressors or portable tanks of compressed gas for the most oxygen sensitive patients and determine the need for portable compressed gas throughout the hospital. Place all respiratory care requirements on a priority basis.
4. The Director of Respiratory Care shall be responsible for ordering additional Medical Air Supplies until the failure has been corrected, and purity test made, (If required).

5. Nursing will closely monitor and support patients during the interim period. Be prepared to relocate patients.

6. In the event the main supply line has ruptured, (Contact the On-Call Administrator for further Direction). MUSC Facility Operations – Supervisor will give approval to Outside Contractor, if needed.