

## Active Shooter in a Hospital Setting

- Active shooter- an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area
- How to respond
  - Run/Evacuate-Run at sound of gunshots. Leave belongings.
  - Hide/Barricade- Hide out of shooters view. Block entry.
  - Fight- Fight only as last resort! Distract/incapacitate attacker by swarming and yelling. Commit to your action!
  - Alert authorities only when safe to do so.
- Role of the Nurse
  - Duty to care for patients.
  - Ensure least loss of life as possible.
  - Make every reasonable attempt to care for patients.
  - Prepare to discontinue care to those not able to evacuate.
- Law enforcement tactics
  - Proceeds to area where gunshots last heard and will not render first aid.
  - Dress in normal uniform or tactical gear.
  - Follow commands. Hands up fingers apart.
- Preventing an active shooter event: warning signs
  - Foster respectful work environment.
  - Observe indicators of violence (i.e. unexplained absenteeism, depression, withdrawal, suicidal comments, severe mood swings)
- A.L.I.C.E. training for staff
  - **Alert**- alert law enforcement when safe or receive first notification of danger
  - **Lockdown**- Lockdown if evacuation is not safe
  - **Inform**- Continue to communicate in real time if safe to do so.
  - **Counter**- Only as last resort. Counter is not fighting. Provides time to escape.
  - **Evacuate**- Only when safe
- How to keep patients safe
  - Evacuate non-impacted areas
  - Lockdown
  - Do not move wounded