

Next Step Violence Intervention Program

Next Step is a hospital-based violence intervention program that connects victims of violent injury to resources and support. Violence is preventable, and like with other communicable diseases, steps can be taken to prevent the spread of violence and help individuals heal and recover. By providing bedside support for participants and families, facilitating in-hospital interventions, and continuing support once participants are in the community, Next Step aims to interrupt the cycle of recurrent violence and help individuals avoid re-injury and further trauma.

- Program responders are available 24/7. Referrals should be made as soon as the patient and/or family engages with the Next Step team.
- If ED Patient Access Specialist (PAS) is unable to page the Next Step team, the security dispatcher can send the page.
- If the patient who meets eligibility requirements is transferring out to HCMC before meeting with the Next Step responder, the ED RN should inform the RN at HCMC during nurse-to-nurse report of the patient's eligibility for this program.

Eligible Patients

- Patients who have experienced violence-related injury (e.g., stabling, shooting, physical assault) regardless of age

Non-Eligible Patients

- Patients with injuries from suspected abuse/neglect
- Patients with injuries related to domestic violence
- Patients with injuries related to suicide attempt
- Patients with mental health/behavioral health admission
- Patients who have sustained sexual assault

Next Step Program Social Worker/Responder Steps

1. Patient arrives with violence related injury.
2. Social work engages patient/family and/or receives referral recommendation from other staff members.
3. Social work determines if consulting Next Step program is appropriate.
4. Social worker contacts ED Patient Access Specialist (Patient Registration) to notify Next Step responder team via Everbridge.

Note: Include Social Worker phone number as the call back number in the Everbridge page.

5. Social worker and Next Step responder discuss patient situation and determine if patient would benefit from Next Step.
6. Next Step responder arrives on site within 30 minutes and notifies Children's security when onsite. Responder visits with patient/family and offers enrollment in program if appropriate.
7. Next Step responder:
 - Documents an encounter in Cerner using the **Violence Intervention Program PowerForm** (within the Social Work folder)
 - Communicates with social work, nursing team, and providers regarding resources and any identified concerns and follow up plan with patient/family if enrolled.