Personal Flotation Devices

PROCEDURE

THE RULE

Anyone participating in water operations for patient care within 10 feet of the water's edge must wear a PFD

Purpose: guidance on the use of lifejackets (per the original)

INSPECTION

- ✓ Free from rips, tears, or punctures
- ✓ Indicator clip in place and service indicator green
- ✓ PFD is armed — CO2 cartridge placed into the housing
- ✓ Inspect regularly during your truck check; ensure the cartridge is installed

DONNING & FIT

- Put on like a vest and secure the buckle in front
- Adjust the body belt; tuck webbing behind the belt or in the fabric loop
- Adjust straps so the fit is snug but not restrictive

INFLATION — THREE WAYS

- Automatic: water-activated system inflates after immersion
- Manual: grasp the 'Jerk to Inflate' handle at the bottom and pull firmly downward
- Oral: tube is on the wearer's left, inside the cover — blow until the chamber is firm

Take Home Message:

Within 10 feet of the water's edge, the PFD goes on — checked, armed, snug, with three ways to inflate it.