MEDICAL STAFF BYLAWS, POLICIES, AND RULES AND REGULATIONS

OF

THE PINNACLEHEALTH HOSPITALS

MEDICAL STAFF ORGANIZATION MANUAL

01.27.2016
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ARTICLE 1

GENERAL

1.A. DEFINITIONS

The definitions that apply to terms used in all the Medical Staff documents are set forth in the Medical Staff Credentials Policy.

1.B. TIME LIMITS

Time limits referred to in this Manual are advisory only and are not mandatory, unless it is expressly stated that a particular right is waived by failing to take action within a specified period.

1.C. DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS

(1) When a function is to be carried out by a member of Hospital management, by a Medical Staff member, or by a Medical Staff committee, the individual, or the committee through its chair, may delegate performance of the function to one or more designees.

(2) When a Medical Staff member is unavailable or unable to perform an assigned function, one or more of the Medical Staff Leaders may perform the function personally or delegate it to another appropriate individual.

(3) The President of the Medical Staff shall perform yearly reviews of the committee structures by January 31 per the recommendation of the respective chairman for all committees outlined in this Manual.
ARTICLE 2

CLINICAL DEPARTMENTS

2.A. DEPARTMENTS

The Medical Staff shall be organized into the following departments:

- Anesthesiology
- Cardiovascular Services
- Emergency Medicine
- Family Practice
- Medicine
- Obstetrics & Gynecology
- Orthopedics
- Pathology
- Pediatrics
- Radiology
- Surgery

2.B. FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF DEPARTMENTS AND DEPARTMENT CHAIRS

The functions and responsibilities of departments and department chairs and vice chairs are set forth in Article 4 of the Medical Staff Bylaws.

2C. DEPARTMENT MEETINGS

Each Department shall hold at least quarterly meetings at times reasonably determined to maximize attendance by department members. Minutes shall be kept at all department meetings and final minutes shall be submitted to the Medical Executive Committee for review.
ARTICLE 3

MEDICAL STAFF COMMITTEES

3.A. MEDICAL STAFF COMMITTEES AND FUNCTIONS

(1) This Article outlines the Medical Staff committees that carry out ongoing and focused professional practice evaluations and other performance improvement functions that are delegated to the Medical Staff by the Board.

(2) Procedures for the appointment of committee chairs and members of the committees are set forth in Article 5 of the Medical Staff Bylaws.

3.B. MEETINGS, REPORTS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Unless otherwise indicated, each committee described in this Manual shall meet as necessary to accomplish its functions, and shall maintain a permanent record of its findings, proceedings, and actions. Each committee shall make a timely report after each meeting to the Medical Executive Committee and to other committees and individuals as may be indicated in this Manual.

3.C. ALLIED HEALTH OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

3.C.1. Composition:

The Allied Health Oversight Committee shall consist of Allied Health Professionals from multiple disciplines. The members of the committee shall be appointed by the committee.

3.C.2. Duties:

The Allied Health Oversight Committee shall:

(a) Establish standard polices and producers, in writing, pertaining to the scope and circumstances of practice for Allied Health Professionals in the medical management of the patient; and

(b) develop and maintain policies and procedure that serve as operational guidelines for Allied Health Professionals.

3.C.3. Meetings and Reports:

The Allied Health Oversight Committee shall meet at minimum twice a year and submit a report to the Medical Executive Committee on its activities.
3.D. BLOOD USAGE COMMITTEE

3.D.1. Composition:

The Blood Usage Committee shall consist of the Medical Director of the Hospital’s Blood Bank, a member of the Department of Anesthesiology, and members from the Departments of Surgery, Cardiovascular Services, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Orthopedics and Medicine.

3.D.2. Duties:

The Blood Usage Committee shall:

(a) oversee the appropriate usage of blood and blood products used in the Hospital;
(b) review blood transfusions to determine proper utilization, including a review of the use of whole blood and component blood elements; and
(c) evaluate and report on actual and suspected blood transfusion reactions, determine the causes thereof and recommend institution of procedures to counter the recurrence of such events where feasible using clinically valid criteria.

3.D.3. Meetings and Reports:

The Blood Usage Committee shall meet at least quarterly and submit a report to the Medical Executive Committee on its activities.

3.E. BYLAWS COMMITTEE

3.E.1. Composition:

The Bylaws Committee shall consist of a chairperson, a vice chairperson, and members appointed by the President of the Medical Staff. There must be one representative from each department. Members of the Active Staff from any given department may also be appointed. Term of membership will be three years with one-third of the membership rotated each year.

3.E.2. Duties:

The Bylaws Committee shall meet at least once a year and shall:

(a) review the Medical Staff Bylaws, the Credentials Policy, the Allied Health Professionals Policy, the Organization Manual, and the Medical Staff Rules and Regulations and make recommendations for appropriate amendments and revisions;
(b) receive and consider all recommendations for changes to these documents made by any committee or department of the Medical Staff, any individual appointed to the Medical Staff, the Senior Vice President of Medical Staff Affairs, and/or the Chief Executive Officer and provide a report to the Medical Executive Committee regarding them; and

(c) edit or devise other descriptive terminology to assist the Medical Executive Committee in its administration of the Medical Staff, when specifically directed in writing by the Medical Executive Committee.

3.F. CANCER COMMITTEE

3.F.1. Composition:

(a) The Cancer Committee shall be comprised of at least one board certified physician representative from Surgery, Medical Oncology, Radiation Oncology, Diagnostic Radiology, Pathology, Gynecologic Oncology, and must include the cancer liaison physician.

(b) Non-physician membership will include representatives from Administration, Patient Care Services Pharmacy, Social Work, Cancer Registry, and Performance Improvement.

(c) The Cancer Committee’s purpose will be to provide leadership to plan, initiate, stimulate, and assess all cancer-related activities.

3.F.2. Duties:

The Cancer Committee shall:

(a) develop and evaluate the annual goals and objectives for the clinical, educational, research, and programmatic activities related to cancer care;

(b) ensure that educational and consultative cancer conferences cover all major sites and are available to the Medical Staff and Allied Health Professionals;

(c) supervise the cancer registry, perform quality control of registry data, and ensure accurate and timely abstracting, staging and follow-up reporting;

(d) demonstrate quality management and improvement through completion of quality management studies that focus on quality, access to care, and outcomes;

(e) ensure an active supportive care system is in place for patients, families and staff;

(f) encourage data usage and regular reporting, including that the annual report is published by November 1 of the following year; and
(g) promote clinical research.

3.F.3. Meetings and Reports:

The Cancer Committee shall meet at least quarterly as a policy and advisory committee body with documentation of activities, and shall submit a report to the Medical Executive Committee on its activities.

3.G. CLINICAL CARE & HEALTH SUPPORT COMMITTEE

3.G.1. Composition:

The Clinical Care & Health Support Committee shall consist of four Active Medical Staff members, appointed by the President of the Medical Staff, and the chairperson of the Medical Staff Quality Committee and the Chief Medical Officer. The Members must be familiar with the Medical Staff Bylaws, and PinnacleHealth peer review, and professional practice evaluation policies.

3.G.2. Duties:

The Clinical Care & Health Support Committee shall:

(a) coach the department chairpersons or Quality Committees for appropriate review and documentation of clinical concerns or health issue concerns; and

(b) conduct a focused review of an individual physician for specific clinical or health concerns upon request by a department chairperson or Quality Committee.

3.H. CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION (CME) COMMITTEE

3.H.1. Composition:

(a) The Continuing Medical Education Committee shall consist of representatives from each of the key Medical Staff departments.

(b) Other clinical department representatives may be asked to serve as guests when CME programs/activities are being considered.

3.H.2. Duties:

The Continuing Medical Education Committee shall:

(a) assure that all CME programs/activities are in compliance with the Pennsylvania Medical Society’s CME Standards and Essentials and to consider these programs/activities for Category I Credit;
(b) sponsor CME programs/activities based on the identified needs of the staff, determined through review of quality assurance and medical audit results;

(c) assess, develop, implement, and evaluate educational programs for the Medical Staff and other health care professionals;

(d) review resources needed for CME programming, including administration, budget, faculty, facilities, learning aids, promotion and record keeping; and

(e) act as the CME liaison for respective departments and monitor the special needs of those departments.

3.H.3. Meetings and Reports:

The Continuing Medical Education Committee shall meet at least once a year and submit a report to the Medical Executive Committee on its activities.

3.I. CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

3.I.1. Composition:

The Credentials Committee shall consist of a representatives from each clinical department, appointed by the respective department chairperson. The chairperson of the Committee shall be appointed by the President of the Medical Staff. Members must be on the Active Staff and cannot concurrently serve as a department chairperson or section chief.

3.I.2. Duties:

The Credentials Committee shall:

(a) in accordance with the Credentials Policy, review the credentials of all applicants for appointment, reappointment, and clinical privileges, conduct a thorough review of the applications, interview such applicants as may be necessary, and make reports of its findings and recommendations;

(b) review, as may be requested by the Medical Executive Committee or department chairpersons, all information available regarding the current clinical competence and behavior of persons currently appointed to the Medical Staff and, as a result of such review, make a report of its findings and recommendations;

(c) review and approve credentialing policies and procedures, specialty-specific criteria for ongoing professional practice evaluation, and specialty-specific triggers for review that are identified by each department;
(d) recommend appropriate threshold eligibility criteria for clinical privileges, including clinical privileges for new procedures and clinical privileges that cross specialty lines; and

(e) perform such other functions as assigned in the Medical Staff Bylaws and other applicable policies.

3.I.3. Meetings and Reports:

The Credentials Committee shall meet at least monthly, but more often whenever required by the chairperson, keep minutes of all such meetings and be accountable to the Medical Executive Committee. The Credentials Committee shall submit written monthly reports to the President of the Medical Staff through the Medical Executive Committee, with a copy to the Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs, of its findings, actions, and recommendations.

3.J. MEDICAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The composition and duties of the Medical Executive Committee are set forth in the Medical Staff Bylaws.

3.K. MEDICAL INFORMATION COMMITTEE

3.K.1. Composition:

The Medical Information Committee shall consist of physician representatives from medical staff departments, the Vice President of Organizational Quality or designee, Chief Information Officer, physician leadership from PinnacleHealth Medical Group and PinnacleHealth Cardiovascular Institute, and the Director of Health Information. The Chairperson of the Committee shall be appointed by the President of the Medical Staff.

3.K.2. Duties:

The Medical Information Committee shall:

(a) supervise the maintenance of medical records at the required standard of completeness and review current inpatient and outpatient medical records for presence, timeliness, legibility and authentication of data and information, as appropriate to maintain quality patient care and as appropriate to the Hospital’s needs;

(b) recommend policies to assure that sufficient data is recorded to allow evaluation of patient care and discipline any member of the Medical Staff or House Staff whose medical record fails to conform with necessary record-keeping requirements;
(c) assure the proper filing, indexing, storage, retention, and availability of patient records;

(d) approve changes in forms and formats for the medical record; and

(e) advise, with the aid of legal counsel and Management, in matters of privileged communication and release of medical record information.

3. K.3. Meetings and Reports:

The Medical Information Committee shall meet monthly and maintain a permanent record of its proceedings and activities. The Medical Information Committee shall present a written report of its findings and recommendations to the Medical Executive Committee.

3.L. MEDICAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE

3.L.1. Composition:

(a) The Medical Practice Committee, also referred to as the Medical Care Evaluation Committee, shall consist of representatives from the Medical Staff, Pharmacy, Nursing, Quality and Administration. Membership shall include representatives from each of the key Medical Staff departments, as well as the Chairperson of the Quality Counsel.

(b) Other members will include: chief medical officer, DIO, (residency or designated program leadership), and a representative from nursing leadership.

3.L.2. Duties:

The Medical Practice Committee shall:

(a) oversee standards of care and clinical practice within PinnacleHealth Hospitals;

(b) define optimal care for specific medical conditions as selected by this Committee;

(c) develop and implement clinical standards of care

(d) evaluate the dimensions of quality, to include, access to care and appropriateness of care

3.L.3. Meetings and Reports:

The Medical Practice Committee shall meet every other month and submit a report to both the Medical Executive Committee and the Outcomes Management Department of its activities.
3.M. MEDICAL STAFF QUALITY COMMITTEE (MSQC)

3.M.1. Composition:

(a) The Medical Staff Quality Committee ("MSQC") shall consist of representatives recommended by each department chairperson and appointed by the President of the Medical Staff for a two-year term. The President of the Medical Staff will appoint the chairperson of the MSQC for a term of two years.

(b) The Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs and Vice President of Organizational Quality will serve on the MSQC as ex officio members.

3.M.2. Duties:

The Medical Staff Quality Committee shall:

(a) provide oversight for the approach to mechanisms for medical care review performed by the Medical Staff departments and committees and provide assistance to the Medical Staff departments and committees in their effort to establish procedures for and evaluate results of medical care review as needed;

(b) review and analyze quality data from a variety of sources to identify needs;

(c) review the activities of departmental and other quality assessment committees to ensure that trends, patterns of performance and potential problems are being detected and evaluated, and that appropriate action is taken;

(d) review and recommend quality assessment indicators for departments and other committees of the Medical Staff;

(e) participate, as necessary, and determine time frames for follow-up in the problem solving process, establishment of taskforces, and assigning responsibility for action planning and implementation of measures to address identified quality concerns;

(f) refer concerns regarding the performance of individual physicians to the relevant department and/or the Credentials Committee;

(g) assure consistency in delivery of care and facilitate resolution across departmental lines;

(h) participate in evaluation of processes and outcomes of patient care and organizational functions, from a multidisciplinary and interdepartmental approach, and recommend actions to Hospital Administration for identified issues;

(i) recommend CME programs based on findings of committee activities;
(j) ensure compliance with, and propose changes in, medical care review as required by the Joint Commission, third-party payors, and other regulatory bodies, and assist Medical Staff departments and committees with implementation; and

(k) maintain records of committee meetings, reports, review of findings and follow-up actions.

3.M.3. Meetings and Reports:

The Medical Staff Quality Committee shall meet every other month and maintain a permanent record of its proceedings and activities. The Medical Staff Quality Committee shall present a written report of its findings and recommendations to the Medical Executive Committee.

3.N. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The composition and duties of the Nominating Committee are set forth in the Medical Staff Bylaws.

3.O. OPERATING ROOM COMMITTEE

3.O.1. Composition:

(a) The Operating Room Committee shall consist of the department chairpersons from Surgery, Anesthesiology, Obstetrics & Gynecology, and Cardiovascular Services. The Committee shall include at least one practitioner from each of the clinical departments of General Surgery, Orthopedics, Plastic Surgery, Neurosurgery, Gynecology, Cardiac Surgery, Otolaryngology, Pediatric Surgery, Urology, Gastroenterology, Pathology and Radiology. The members of the committee shall be appointed by the President of the Medical Staff in consultation with the Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs.

(b) Vice President of Surgical Services—and an infection control practitioner will serve as ex officio, non-voting members.

3.O.2. Duties:

The Operating Room Committee shall:

(a) conduct a continuous evaluation of operating room policies and procedures; and

(b) develop and maintain policies and procedures that serve as operational guidelines for Surgical Services.
3.0.3. Meetings and Reports:

The Operating Room Committee shall meet every other month and submit reports to the Medical Executive Committee on its activities.

3.P. OPERATIVE AND OTHER INVASIVE PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

3.P.1. Composition:

(a) The Operative and Other Invasive Procedures Committee, also referred to as the Tissue Committee, shall consist of one Active Staff member appointed from each of the Departments of Surgery, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Radiology and Pathology and other departments as necessary.

(b) *Ex officio* members, without vote, shall include representatives from Nursing Services, Surgical Services and the Performance Improvement Department.

3.P.2. Duties:

The Operative and Other Invasive Procedures Committee shall:

(a) review and evaluate procedures performed in the PinnacleHealth Hospitals when there is a disagreement among the preoperative, post-operative, and pathological diagnosis, or where a question of the acceptability of the procedure undertaken has been raised;

(b) study the agreement or disagreement among the pre-operative and post-operative clinical diagnoses and the final pathologic diagnosis based on tissue review, and report instances of infractions and inconsistencies of surgery and pathological diagnoses;

(c) establish a screening mechanism based on predetermined criteria and evaluate those surgical cases in which no pathological specimen was removed; and

(d) refer to the department Quality Committees on those instances which require further evaluation and correlation of the work performed by the surgeon, the pathologist, the radiologist, and any other department of the Hospital where applicability exists.

3.P.3. Meetings and Reports:

The Operative and Other Invasive Procedures Committee shall meet at least once monthly and its reports shall be submitted to the Medical Executive Committee and made available to the Medical Practice Committee.
3.Q. PHARMACY AND THERAPEUTICS COMMITTEE

3.Q.1. Composition:

(a) The Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee shall consist of physicians, pharmacists, nurses, and PinnacleHealth System leadership.

(b) Physician specialty representation will assure appropriate knowledge and expertise to adequately address medication-related needs of the patient populations served at PinnacleHealth.

(c) The chairperson shall be a physician appointed by the President of the Medical Staff.

(d) The Director of the Pharmacy, or designee, shall act as a secretary for the Committee.

3.Q.2. Duties:

The Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee shall:

(a) assume responsibility for managing the medication formulary system;

(b) serve in an evaluative, educational, and advisory capacity to the Medical Staff and PinnacleHealth System leadership in all matters pertaining to the use of medications;

(c) oversee the development of policies and procedures related to all aspects of medication use within the PinnacleHealth System;

(d) optimize the safe and cost-effective use of medications through medication-use evaluations, adverse medication-event monitoring and reporting, medication error prevention, and development of clinical care plans and guidelines;

3.Q.3. Subcommittees:

The Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee has authorized the formation of the following Subcommittees for the purpose of focusing on specialty areas of formulary system management. The following Subcommittees will meet at least quarterly and will report their findings and recommendations to the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.

(a) Antibiotic Subcommittee.

(b) Nutrition Care Subcommittee.

(c) Medication Safety Subcommittee.

(d) Cardiac Subcommittee.

(e) Oncology Subcommittee.
3.0.4. Meetings and Reports:

(a) The Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee and its Subcommittees shall meet at least quarterly and submit recommendations to the Medical Executive Committee on its activities.

3.R. RADIATION SAFETY COMMITTEE

3.R.1. Composition:

The Radiation Safety Committee shall consist of at least three members. Membership shall include the Radiation Safety Officer, physician experts in nuclear medicine and therapeutic radiology, a person with special competence in radiation safety, a representative from Administration, and a representative from Patient Care Services. The chairman will be appointed by the Chairperson of the Department of Radiology.

3.R.2. Duties:

The Radiation Safety Committee shall:

(a) ensure that all individuals working with or in the vicinity of radioactive materials (including physicians, technologists, physicists and pharmacists) have sufficient training and experience to enable them to perform their duties safely and in accordance with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (PA) regulations and the conditions of such licensure as may be required and maintained as an individual or institutional license;

(b) ensure that all usage of radioactive material is conducted in a safe manner consistent with the institution’s As Low As Reasonably Achievable (“ALARA”) program;

(c) establish a table of investigational level for individual occupational radiation exposures as part of the institution’s ALARA program;

(d) review and approve all requests for use of radioactive material and the use of radiation producing equipment with the institution;

(e) prescribe special conditions that will be required during the use of radioactive materials, such as requirements for bioassays, physical examinations of users, and special monitoring procedures;

(f) annually review the entire safety program, including records, reports from the Radiation Safety Officer, results of the NRC and Commonwealth of PA inspections, written safety
procedures and management control systems, and recommend any remedial action to correct deficiencies and report to the Medical Executive Committee;

(g) ensure that the byproduct material license is amended, when necessary, prior to any changes in facilities, equipment, policies, procedures and personnel;

(h) establish an ongoing educational and safety program for all persons whose duties may require them to work in, or to frequent, areas where radioactive materials are used (e.g., patient care services, security and housekeeping personnel);

(i) maintain written records of all committee meetings, actions, recommendations and decisions;

(j) formulate and publish directions, notices, manuals, forms, requisitions and regulations deemed necessary by the Committee for safe handling, use, storage and disposition of radioactive materials, and shall at all times be guided by material provided by the NRC, the American Society of Nuclear Medicine, the American College of Radiology, the International Commission on Radiation Protection, and the International Atomic Energy Agency; and

(k) assure compliance with the laws of Commonwealth of PA and the United States and any local ordinances with regard to the safe use, installation, and registration of any radiation-producing device or material.

3.R.3. Meetings and Reports:

The Radiation Safety Committee shall meet as often as necessary to conduct its business, but not less than once in each calendar quarter, and submit reports to the Medical Executive Committee on its activities.
ARTICLE 4

AMENDMENTS

The process for amending this Medical Staff Organization Manual is set forth in the Medical Staff Bylaws.
ARTICLE 5

ADOPTION

This Medical Staff Organization Manual is adopted and made effective upon approval of the Board, superseding and replacing any and all previous Medical Staff Bylaws and policies pertaining to the subject matter herein.

Adopted by the Medical Staff:____________________

Approved by the Board:____________________