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| Title: | Critical Care Committee |
| Department: | Medical Staff Services |
| Approver(s): | Medical Executive Committee |
| Policy Number: | Medical Staff Policy MS 12  |
| Origination Date: | 06/30/2017 |
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**Section 1**

**1.1 Policy Statement**

The Critical Care Committee develops clinical practice guidelines related to critical care for Medical Staff, Advanced Practice Providers, and hospital staff. The Committee assists the hospital in maintaining clinically appropriate and efficient intensive care bed utilization by providing mechanisms for:

* Admitting patients to the intensive care units based on clinically based criteria;
* Assigning available beds to the most appropriate patients;
* Addressing overflow placement of patients during times of maximum bed occupancy;
* Coordinating appropriate patient discharges.

#### 1.2 Purpose

The Critical Care Committee has delegated authority for implementing policies and procedures to improve efficiency and outcomes in the Critical Care Unit, Intermediate Care Unit, and Telemetry.

**SECTION 2**

#### 2.1 Composition

Members of the Active Staff, appointed by the Chief of Staff and approved by the MEC.

Other voting members include the Chief Nursing Officer and three (3) members of nursing leadership assigned by the Chief of Staff.

#### 2.2 Duties

Duties of the Critical Care Committee are to:

1. Determine barriers that limit access to the Critical Care Unit, Intermediate Care Unit, and Telemetry;
2. Develop, implement, and oversee policies and procedures that guide right level of care decisions;
3. Define, implement, and monitor admission, discharge, and transfer criteria;
4. Establish criteria and procedures for evaluation of evidence-based practice implementation for Medical Staff and other personnel prescribed in the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations;
5. Evaluate outcomes and recommend opportunities for improvement;
6. Recommend action on any information regarding variability in regards to evidence-based practice guidelines;
7. Provide regular reports to the Performance Improvement (PI) Committee;
8. Undertake specific tasks as may be appropriately referred to it by the PI committee or Medical Executive Committee (MEC); and
9. Review critical care-specific hospital/nursing policies on a periodic basis.

#### 2.3 Meetings

Meets as necessary but at least quarterly, maintains a permanent record of its proceedings, and reports to the PI Committee.