



Current Status: Active

PolicyStat ID: 1171887



Ascension

Origination: 11/17/2004
Last Reviewed: 11/26/2013
Last Revised: 11/26/2013
Next Review: 11/25/2016
Owner: Judy Viczian: Dir Medical Staff
 Srvcs
Policy Area: Medical Staff
Reference Tags:
Applicability: Affinity Health System
 Affinity Medical Group
 Calumet Medical Center
 Mercy Medical Center
 St. Elizabeth Hospital

Allied Health Professionals

Summary:

The Board and Affinity Medical Staff permit certain types of allied health professionals (AHP) to provide patient care services. Such AHPs must be qualified by academic and clinical or other training to practice in a clinical or supportive role. They may participate directly in the medical management and/or care of patients under the general or direct supervision of a practitioner who is a member of the Affinity Medical Staff holding privileges to provide such care. In addition, AHPs may provide services only as granted by Affinity Health System (AHS), within their scope of practice, and in keeping with all applicable rules, policies, and procedures and any formal written agreement between the AHP, supervising/collaborating practitioner, and/or AHS.

POLICY

The Board and Affinity Medical Staff permit certain types of AHPs to provide patient care services. Such AHPs must be qualified by academic and clinical or other training to practice in a clinical or supportive role. They may participate directly in the medical management and/or care of patients under the general or direct supervision of a supervising / collaborating practitioner who is a member of the Medical Staff holding privileges to provide such care. In addition, AHPs may provide services only as granted by Affinity Health System (AHS), within their scope of practice, and in keeping with all applicable rules, policies, and procedures and any formal written agreement between the AHP, supervising/collaborating practitioner, and/or AHS.

PROCEDURE

Allied Health Professionals

Currently, the following categories of AHPs may be granted privileges to provide services. These categories include, but are not limited to, the following:

- I. Independent AHPs
 - A. Individuals with a doctorate degree in psychology from an accredited college or university and licensed by the Wisconsin Psychology Examining Board;

- B. Nurse Midwives licensed by the Wisconsin Board of Licensing;
- C. Advanced Practice Nurse Prescribers registered and licensed by the Wisconsin Board of Nursing;
- D. Registered Nurses who have graduated from an approved nurse anesthesia education program accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Education Program/Schools, or its predecessor, and have been certified as Certified Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) by the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists, or its predecessor.

II. Dependent AHPs

- A. Physician Assistants;
- B. Certified Nurse Practitioners;
- C. Dental Hygienists licensed by the Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board;
- D. Registered Nurses (RNs) licensed by the Wisconsin Board of Nursing;
- E. Individuals with a degree in social work from an accredited college or university who have satisfied the credentialing requirements for licensure by the employer insurance company, payor source or community agency, or if the social worker is employed by a physician, the AHP must meet Medicaid credentialing criteria;
- F. Psychologists with less than PhD degree status and/or without a clinical psychologist's license from the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services;
- G. Operating room Technicians/Assistants (Dental and Surgical) and other professionals with appropriate documentation of training and competency;
- H. Perfusionists;
- I. Audiologists;
- J. Licensed Practical Nurses;
- K. Other qualified personnel who are employees of Affinity, or who have a contractual relationship with one or more campuses.

Qualifications

To be privileged to perform services, an AHP must:

- I. be a graduate of an accredited school or have completed a requisite course of study and training in his or her discipline,
- II. be legally qualified to practice in the given discipline in this state,
- III. have demonstrated a clinical competence in his or her discipline,
- IV. meet the specific qualifications and requirements established by the Affinity Medical Staff,
- V. meet any malpractice insurance conditions established by the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services and AHS.
- VI. agree to abide by the rules, policies, and procedures of AHS, and any formal written agreement between the AHP, the supervising/collaborating practitioner, and/or AHS.

AHPs employed/sponsored by, or under contract with a Medical Staff practitioner may be given privileges to provide services only when recommended by his or her employer/sponsor or contractor. The employer/sponsor or contractor of the AHP seeking approval must signify approval of the AHPs clinical duties and responsibilities by signing as supervising/collaborating physician on the AHPs Scope of Practice, privilege form and/or collaborating agreement, as applicable.

Independent AHPs that are not employed/sponsored by, or under contract with an Affinity Medical Staff practitioner will have their privilege form reviewed by appropriate medical staff members.

AHPs shall not:

- I. Admit patients to or discharge patients from AHS facilities unless he or she is legally qualified, licensed, and has been granted privileges to do so.
- II. Give orders, verbal or written, unless he or she is legally qualified, licensed, and has been granted privileges to do so.
- III. Perform history and physical exams unless he or she is legally qualified, licensed, and has been granted privileges to do so.
- IV. Act as a first assistant at any surgical, diagnostic or therapeutic procedure for which the Affinity Medical Staff requires the presence of an assisting physician.

Application

Each AHP must complete an application form and forward it to the Medical Staff Services Office. This office will verify information contained within the application (when applicable) and will collect additional information as is deemed necessary to permit a complete evaluation of the AHPs request for privileges to provide services.

Complete applications from AHPs requesting approval as an independent or dependent AHP shall be processed in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Affinity Medical Staff Bylaws.

AHPs employed by practitioner member/member's employment entity

Each dependent AHP employed by a practitioner member of the Affinity Medical Staff (or a practitioner member's employment entity) must submit a statement signed by that member of the medical staff supporting the request for privileges to provide services. The statement must confirm that the Affinity Medical Staff Practitioner will, at all times, be responsible for the AHPs practice or will designate another Medical Staff Practitioner to assume such responsibility as applicable. AHS may, at any time, terminate the AHPs privileges to provide services. In such cases, a conference with the appropriate supervising/collaborating practitioner will be conducted, if possible. If AHS suspends or terminates the appointment or privileges of the practitioner employer, the AHPs services will also be suspended or terminated.

Professional ethics

The professional conduct of each AHP shall be governed by the principles of professional ethics

established by both the profession and the law, and will be in accordance with AHS Mission, Promise and Values.

Suspension, modification, or termination of privileges to provide services

Each AHP may be subject to disciplinary and corrective action, and his or her privileges to provide services may be suspended, modified, or terminated at any time, in the manner outlined in the Affinity Medical Staff Bylaws or Medical Staff policy, as applicable.

EM3 IO_ID: 15997

Attachments:

[Request for Change in Status/Privileges](#)

COPY