

# **MEDICAL STAFF RULES & REGULATIONS**

## **SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**

Approved by the Board of Trustees  
June 4, 2024

The following articles included in this issue have been revised since the last edition dated April 5, 2022:

Medical Staff General Rules & Regulations:

- Section A: Contents of an History and Physical
- Section B: Admission to Critical Care

Medical Staff Department/Division Policies

- Section A, 3, ii, b: Patient Care Related Obligations – Allied Health Professionals

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**Table of Contents**

<b>I. General Rules and Regulations</b>	
A. Admission.....	Page 4-6
B. Admission to Critical Care (ICU/CCU).....	Page 6
C. In-Hospital Orders.....	Page 6-7
D. Surgical Patients.....	Page 7-9
E. Patients with Infectious Diseases.....	Page 9
F. Consultations.....	Page 9
G. Discharge of Patients.....	Page 10
H. Timeframe to Complete Records.....	Page 10
I. Use of Scribes.....	Page 10
J. Autopsies.....	Page 10
K. Chain of Command.....	Page 10
L. Practitioner Back-up Coverage.....	Page 11
M. EMTALA Requirements.....	Page 11-12
N. ER Back-up Responsibilities.....	Page 12-14
O. Communication Skills.....	Page 14-15
P. Observers.....	Page 15
Q. FPPE/Proctoring_Guidelines.....	Page 15
R. Committee/Division Chairmanship.....	Page 16
S. Physician Name Badges.....	Page 16
T. Grandfathering Provision.....	Page 16
U. Patient Safety.....	Page 16-17
V. Confidentiality/HIPAA Privacy Regulations.....	Page 17-18

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

W. Hospitalist Physicians Program.....	Page 18-19
<b>II. Department/Division Policies</b>	
A. Allied Health Professional Staff.....	Page 19-21
B. Anesthesia Department.....	Page 21-22
C. Emergency Medicine Department.....	Page 22-23
D. Family Medicine Department.....	Page 23
E. Medicine Department.....	Page 23-24
1. Cardiology Division.....	Page 24-26
2. Gastroenterology Division.....	Page 26-27
F. OB/GYN Department.....	Page 27-29
G. Pediatric Department.....	Page 29-30
H. Radiology Department.....	Page 30
I. Surgery Department.....	Page 31-36
<b>Appendix A.....</b>	<b>Page 37-38</b>

## **I. GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **A. Admission**

1. All patients must be admitted and discharged by a Member of the Medical Staff.
2. Except in an emergency, no patient shall be admitted to the Hospital until a provisional diagnosis has been stated. In the case of an emergency, the provisional diagnosis shall be stated as soon after admission as possible. Physicians admitting the patient shall be held responsible for giving such information as may be necessary to assure the protection of the patient and others.
3. The attending physician shall be responsible for the preparation of a complete and legible medical record for each patient. A discharge summary is required in all inpatient cases. The final and/or discharge diagnosis shall be recorded on the chart at the time of discharge unless pathological and/or laboratory reports are pending, but no later than fourteen (14) days after discharge (Title 22 requirements). There shall be a clinical summary of the chart of any patient who expires. All information contained in the record is the property of the Hospital. The records shall not be removed from the Hospital unless required by a court order, subpoena or statute. Contents of the discharge summary shall be as follows:
  - Admission Date
  - Discharge Date
  - Admission Information
  - Admission Diagnosis
  - Discharge Diagnosis
  - Brief History of Physical Illness
  - Hospital Course
    - Significant Findings
    - Diagnostic Data
    - Procedures and Treatment Provided
  - Physical Exam
    - Vitals and Measurements
  - Discharge Medications
    - Home
    - Prescription
  - Discharge Plan/Recommendations
  - Patient Discharge Condition
    - Discharge Disposition
    - Pending Test Results/Studies

#### 4. Contents of an History and Physical

A complete history and physical examination shall be recorded in all cases within twenty-four (24) hours after admission, except for patients admitted in labor. Patients re-admitted thirty (30) days after discharge must have an interval history and a complete current physical examination.

For all inpatients, observation patients, and for those outpatients having procedures requiring general, spinal or epidural anesthesia, or IV moderate sedation, the history and physical must include the following documentation as appropriate. The history and physical must be completed by a physician Member of the Medical Staff; with the exception of outpatient surgical procedures where the history and physical may be performed by a mid-level provider who has been granted the privilege.

- Medical History
- Chief Complaint

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**

**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**

**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

- History of the current illness, including, when appropriate, assessment of emotional, behavioral and social status
- Relevant past medical, family and/or social history appropriate to the patient’s age
- Review of body systems
- A list of current medications
- Any known allergies including past medication reactions and biological allergies
- Existing co-morbid conditions
- Physical examination; current physical assessment
- Provisional diagnosis; statement of the conclusions or impressions drawn from the medical history and physical examination
- Initial plan; statement of the course of action planned for the patient while in the hospital
- System Review
- Physical
  - General to include vital signs
  - Skin
  - HEENT
  - Neck
  - Cardio Pulmonary
  - Abdomen
  - Lymphatic
  - Extremities
  - Neurological
  - Rectal
  - Pelvic
- Diagnostic data
- Impressions or Admitting
  - Diagnosis Specificity
- Admission Qualification

Obstetrical History and Physical

The admission history and physical for all routine obstetrical patients must be completed on the obstetrical admission physical examination form or a complete history and physical must be dictated. All patients undergoing cesarean section or post-partum tubal sterilization procedures must have a complete history and physical examination recorded.

Podiatry and Oral/Maxillofacial History and Physicals

Podiatrists and Oral/Maxillofacial Surgeons may perform a history and physical on all their pre-operative patients provided that cases where the patient is ASAIII (American Society of Anesthesiologists Classification System) or higher, a concomitant consultation from an MD or DO (primary care or specialist) is on the chart prior to surgery.

Radiology History and Physical

The following radiology procedures require a history and physical prior to the procedure:

- Percutaneous nephrostomy
- Percutaneous biliary drainage
- Angioplasty and stent placement
- Vena Cava Filter insertion
- Thrombolytic therapy and de-clotting procedures

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

- Arterial embolization procedures
- Any procedure which is done with conscious sedation

Outpatients undergoing these procedures will receive a history and physical by the Radiologist with completion of the Outpatient Services History and Physical form. Inpatients can have these procedures done without an additional dictated or written history and physical by the Radiologist, except when there has been a significant change in the patient's condition since admission.

Pediatric patients undergoing these procedures will be admitted to Pediatrics and the history and physical is performed by the attending physician.

5. All hospitalized patients must be seen daily by the attending Member of the Medical staff, who shall document a progress note electronically in hospital EMR. Progress notes must be dated, timed and authenticated by the treating provider no later than midnight of the day the patient was seen. For surgical patients, the surgeon who operated on the patient (or one with similar privileges) will follow the patient for post-operative care until the patient is surgically stable and the surgeon signs off the case. Progress notes shall include the following:
  - Date and Time
  - SOAP/PSO Note
  - Diagnosis Specificity
  - Progression of Care
  - Level of Care
  - Diagnostic Data
6. Outpatient Observation Stay (OOS) patients will be seen within eighteen (18) hours or less of admission by a physician Member of the Medical Staff.

**B. Admission to Critical Care (ICU/CCU)**

All patients admitted from the Emergency Department, or had a change of condition requiring a transfer to a critical care unit, must be consulted and seen by a critical care physician within two (2) hours of being admitted to any intensive care unit. If the patient is a Code Stroke or Code STEMI and will need to be admitted, admission orders are to be submitted by the admitting physician within thirty (30) minutes.

**C. In-Hospital Orders**

1. All orders shall be entered by physicians directly into hospital EMR using computerized physician order entry (CPOE). Verbal orders will be permitted only in rare circumstances such as medical emergencies. Telephone orders will be permitted when physicians are outside of the Hospital, and in emergent situations. Verbal and telephone orders other than for drugs may be accepted by any licensed, registered, or nationally certified health professional provided that the orders received relate to the licensed, certified, or registered area of competence of the individual, such as: Audiologists, Cardiopulmonary/Pulmonary Technologists/Technicians, Dietitians, Laboratory Technologists, Occupational Therapists, Orthopedic Technologists, Physical Therapists, Radiological Technologists, Respiratory Technologists, Respiratory Therapists, and Speech Pathologists. Telephone and verbal orders for administration of medications may be received and recorded by licensed health professionals who are expressly authorized under their practice acts to receive orders to administer drugs. This includes Registered Nurses, Licensed Vocation Nurses, Pharmacists, Physical Therapists (for certain topical drugs), and Respiratory Therapists when the order relates specifically to respiratory therapy. These professionals will enter such orders into hospital EMR immediately upon receiving them. The

responsible physician shall authenticate all unsigned telephone/verbal orders within forty-eight (48) hours.

2. All medication orders must be reviewed, renewed, changed, and/or discontinued at least every thirty (30) days. Automatic stop orders prior to thirty (30) days may be established for classes of drugs and/or individual drug entities. These automatic stop orders are determined by a collaborative effort of the Medication Safety Committee and the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, with approval of the recommendations by the Medical Executive Committee. A prescriber's medication order for a specific duration of drug therapy supersedes automatic stop orders. Medication orders shall not be discontinued without notifying the physician. If the order expires during the night, the expiration shall be called to the attention of the physician the following morning.
3. Verbal, telephone, faxed and protocol orders will be sent to the physician's Message Center (inbox) for signature. Physicians may designate a proxy to sign their orders (i.e., during vacation or weekend call).
4. Experimental or investigational drugs may be used only by physicians approved by the Institutional Review Board.

#### **D. Surgical Patients**

1. When the history and physical examination are not recorded on the chart before the time of the preoperative medication, the operation shall be postponed unless the attending surgeon:
  - Completes the required history and physical, including preoperative diagnosis and operative procedure.
  - The history and physical examination or an interval history and physical examination shall be performed and recorded within twenty-four (24) hours prior to surgery (Title 22) and before the preoperative medication is given.
2. Minimum requirements for preoperative testing on both ambulatory and inpatient surgery patients undergoing general, spinal or epidural anesthesia are as follows:
  - Hemoglobin and Hematocrit or CBC within seven (7) days prior to surgery (females eleven (11) years of age and over, males sixty (60) years of age and over).
  - Serum Potassium within seven (7) days prior to surgery for patients on diuretics.
  - Serum Glucose or Accucheck immediately prior to surgery, and prior to discharge for diabetics.
  - EKG within three (3) months prior to surgery (females fifty (50) years of age and over, males forty-five (45) years of age and over).
  - Additional elective laboratory testing may be ordered at the discretion of the physician and as long as the minimum requirements are met; it need not be restricted to the seventy-two (72) hour time frame.
  - Pre-op chest x-rays are required for those patients who are over sixty (60) years of age and/or have a history of pulmonary disease. This requirement can be omitted for those patients that have had a chest x-ray that is normal for their age in the last six (6) months.
3. Results of these tests must be recorded on the chart before the pre-op medication is given.
4. If the above criteria are not met, the operation shall be postponed unless the surgeon states in writing that such delay would be detrimental to the patient.
5. The only exception to the above is a Category I emergency situation.
6. Prior to any cancer surgery based on a diagnosis from outside of this Hospital, the slides and pathology report will be reviewed at the discretion of the surgeon.
7. For patients less than forty (40) years of age, with American Society of Anesthesiologists – ASA-1, the pre-operative laboratory testing requirements are not required.
8. These requirements can be waived at the surgeon's discretion for patients having procedures with local anesthesia and/or outpatient surgeries.

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

9. Upon completion of a surgery or a high risk procedure (includes procedures performed in the Cardiac Cath Lab) and before the patient is transferred to the next level of care (i.e. before the patient is transferred out of the PACU), either a full Operative Report or an Immediate Postop Note is recorded in the Electronic Medical Record system (Cerner). If an Immediate Postop Note is recorded upon completion of a surgery or procedure, an Operative Report shall be recorded and authenticated by the attending surgeon within twenty-four (24) hours after surgery. Failure to complete an operative report within the timeframe required in hospital policy will result in suspension in accordance with hospital policy.

Contents of the Immediate Postop Note shall be as follows:

- Date and time of Surgery
- Surgeon name
- Preoperative Diagnosis
- Postoperative Diagnosis
- Anesthesia
- Name of Operation/Procedure
- Estimated blood loss
- Specimen(s) removed
- Surgical packing
- Findings

Contents of the operative report shall be as follows:

- Date and time of Surgery
- Surgeon name
- Surgical Assistant (if applicable)
- Preoperative Diagnosis
- Postoperative Diagnosis
- Preoperative Condition
- Postoperative Condition
- Anesthesia
- Anesthesiologist
- Name of Operation/Procedure
- Procedure/Technique Description
- Description of Surgical Site Infection, if present
- Estimated blood loss
- Specimen(s) removed
- Surgical packing
- Findings
- Complications
- Level of Care

10. A post-anesthesia evaluation must be completed and documented by anesthesia no later than 48-hours after surgery or a procedure requiring anesthesia services.



11. All tissue removed during surgical procedures, endoscopic procedures and obstetrical procedures shall be sent to the pathology laboratory for examination. Exceptions for San Antonio Regional Hospital have been granted by the Department of Health Services for the following: intrauterine device, first ribs, prepuc of newborn.
12. The Medical Staff has defined procedures requiring Informed Consent as follows:
  - All procedures performed in the Operating Room, Heart Catheterization Lab, Endoscopic Lab, invasive procedures done in Radiology, and Labor and Delivery Operating Room Suite.
  - All procedures requiring the use of anesthesia; i.e., moderate (conscious) sedation or deep sedation.
  - Transfusions of blood or blood products.

#### **E. Patients with Infectious Diseases**

In all patients with contagious disease, proper isolation techniques must be used. These diseases include: chickenpox, rubella (German measles), rubeola (measles), mumps, whooping cough, possible active tuberculosis, typhoid, infectious hepatitis, meningococcal infections, meningitis, encephalitis, poliomyelitis, herpes zoster, AIDS, and staphylococcal aureus coagulase positive infections.

#### **F. Consultations**

1. The patient's physician is responsible for securing prompt consultations when indicated for medical and behavioral medicine needs. It is the responsibility of the physician (including a specialist who wishes to obtain a consultation from the primary care physician) who is requesting consultation, to select the appropriate consultant and to contact the consultant personally. Physicians should inform the consultant of the reason why consultation is needed and the level of urgency. The request for consultation from any physician and need for consultation must be documented in the patient's medical record.
2. A surgical consultation is required prior to surgery, except in emergencies, when the surgeon is not the attending physician.
3. Consultations shall be performed within twenty-four (24) hours of the request, or sooner, as appropriate to the patient's condition. Consultation notes shall include the following:
  - Consultation Date
  - Referring Physician
  - Reason for Consult
  - History Present Illness
  - Review of System
  - Past History
  - Social History
  - Family History
  - Diagnostic Data
  - Recommendation
  - Diagnosis Specificity
  - Medications
  - Physical Exam
  - Assessment and Plan

### **G. Discharge of Patients**

Patients shall be discharged only on order of the attending physician.

When a patient leaves the Hospital against the advice of the attending physician, or refuses treatment recommended by the attending physician, the patient shall be requested to sign a statement releasing the physician and the Hospital from any responsibility. An explanatory note shall be made on the chart and that notation witnessed by a third party.

### **H. Time Frame to Complete Records**

All patient medical records shall be completed at the time of discharge. Any medical record is considered delinquent if incomplete 14 days following patient discharge (Title XXII). Any operative report / procedure report is considered delinquent if not dictated 24 hours after the surgery and/or procedure.

History and Physicals are considered delinquent if not completed within 24 hours of admission.

Physicians shall be notified of deficiencies in accordance with HIM Department policy 8700.00305. Physicians who fail to complete their delinquent records within the specified timeframe will be automatically suspended in accordance with these Bylaws, Section 6.4.7.

### **I. Use of Scribes**

Use of scribes is permitted under specific circumstances as outlined in hospital policy #8610.33080.

A Scribe/Provider Agreement must be completed and on file prior to the use of a scribe.

All scribe charts/entries must be attested to by the provider and authenticated prior to the provider or scribe leaving the facility. Noncompliance with the Scribe Policy may result in the loss of scribe privileges.

### **J. Autopsies**

An autopsy may be requested at the discretion of the attending physician.

### **K. Chain of Command**

In situations involving concerns with the management of a patient, a lack of timely response to the emergency department or other patient care areas, or other situations requiring the assistance of a Medical Staff officer, the following sequence of command shall be followed:

- Division Chairman, if applicable
- Chairman of Department
- Vice Chairman of Department
- President of the Medical Staff
- President-Elect
- Immediate Past President
- President of the Hospital or designee

## **L. Practitioner Back-up Coverage**

All staff members who are granted clinical privileges are required to provide and regularly update names of one or more designated back-up practitioners who have comparable clinical privileges and are willing to provide back-up in case a practitioner cannot be reached by any department of the Hospital. Exceptions to this requirement include Surgical Assistants, Allied Health Professionals and contracted in-house groups (i.e., Anesthesia, Pathology, Radiology and Emergency Medicine). This list of back-up practitioners will be made available to all nursing units and departments including the Emergency Department. This list will be utilized to contact the designated back-up practitioner when a particular practitioner cannot be reached. This procedure shall be utilized prior to invoking the “Chain of Command” outlined in Section I.

## **M. EMTALA Requirements**

### **1. Medical Screening Examinations and Disposition of Patients**

- a. All persons presenting at the Hospital for emergency medical services shall receive appropriate medical screening and stabilizing treatment in compliance with State and Federal laws pursuant to the Emergency Department policy “Medical Screening of Patients Seeking Emergency Care; Transfer of Patients with Emergency Medical Conditions”. This may include admission to the Hospital and delivery of obstetrical patients.
- b. Medical screening examinations in the Emergency Department will be conducted by qualified physicians or other authorized personnel (See Nurse Practitioner/Urgent Care Clinic Standardized Procedure). Patients who are eighteen (18) weeks gestation or greater and have a pregnancy related complaint will be transported to the Labor and Delivery department for medical screening and any necessary stabilizing treatment. When a medical screening is conducted in the Labor and Delivery department, it may be conducted by nursing professionals who meet the qualifications set forth in “Labor and Delivery EMTALA Compliance Policy”.
- c. No medical screening or stabilizing treatment is to be delayed in any way to inquire about the insurance status of a patient or to inquire whether the patient is able to pay for such services.
- d. Medical screening examinations shall include a physical examination of potentially affected systems, as well as any available testing necessary to rule out the presence of an “emergency medical condition” as defined in the Emergency Department policy “Medical Screening of Patients Seeking Emergency Care; Transfer of Patients with Emergency Medical Conditions”. When appropriate, medical screening shall include consultation with specialty physicians.
- e. The contents of a medical screening examination for obstetrical patients are specified in the labor and delivery “EMTALA Compliance Policy”.
  - If maternal and fetal status is determined to be stable and true labor cannot be established, the obstetrician responsible for the patient may discharge the patient. The obstetrician is responsible for certifying the patient’s false labor on the OB Observation Record within twenty-four (24) hours.
  - Patients who are having contractions and have not yet delivered may only be discharged after an obstetrician has determined that the patient is stable for discharge. Stable for discharge means that within reasonable clinical confidence, the patient has reached the point where her continued care, including diagnostic work-up and/or treatment could be performed as an outpatient or later as an inpatient. Before discharging the patient, the Obstetrician must provide a plan for appropriate follow-up care with discharge instructions.

### **2. Transfers or Discharges of Patients**

- a. All transfers and discharges of patients with an “emergency medical condition” from the Emergency Department must be in compliance with the Emergency Department policy

“Medical Screening of Patients Seeking Emergency Care; Transfer of Patients with Emergency Medical Conditions, Inter-facility and Intra-facility Patient Transfers”.

- b. No referral or transfer to other facilities shall be made from the Emergency Department without approval of the Emergency Department or attending physician.
  - c. A patient may not be transferred if they have an “emergency medical condition” which is not stabilized unless:
    - The patient requests the transfer, or
    - A physician has determined that based upon the reasonable risks and benefits to the patient and upon the information available at the time, the medical benefits reasonably expected from the transfer outweigh the increased risk to the individual’s medical condition. The physician making such a determination must complete the “Physician Assessment and Certification for Transfer” form and include a summary of the risks and benefits upon which certification is based. The patient should then be transferred with qualified personnel and with the necessary and medically appropriate transportation equipment and pertinent medical records in accordance with the Hospital policy referenced above.
3. Documentation
- a. Qualified professionals performing medical screening examinations shall document the results of their screening and testing if applicable and indicate whether the patient has an “emergency medical condition,” and whether the patient has been stabilized or is stable. Particular attention should be given to evaluation of the patient’s pain status, if applicable, with documentation addressing the patient’s pain status on transfer or discharge.
  - b. The responsible obstetrician must evaluate the patient’s written outpatient record within twenty-four (24) hours including any fetal monitoring strips obtained during a patient’s observation period, sign the record and countersign any physician orders.

#### **N. ER Back-up Responsibilities**

1. Physicians serving on the ER back-up roster may be called to see patients who require their care in the Emergency Department or admission to the Hospital. All physicians on ER back-up call must respond within thirty (30) minutes to calls from the Emergency Department. The on-call physician must be physically present in the Emergency Department within thirty (30) minutes or as deemed appropriate by the Emergency Medicine physician or at the request of any other Medical Staff Member caring for the patient. In the case of a patient that requires admission to SARH, or transfer to another facility, the admitting/transferring physician must give orders within two (2) hours of this physician being notified about the case. The ER back-Up physician is also required to provide emergency services and/or consultation to hospitalized patients when requested to do so by another Member of the Medical Staff caring for the patient, the Department Chairman, or any other individual as listed in the chain of command identified in Section I.
2. A list of appropriate physicians will be provided to patients who can be discharged but need follow-up care.
3. When the patient does not have a personal physician, it will be the sole responsibility and authority of the attending Emergency Medicine Physician to determine the ER back-up physician to be called.
4. The Medical Executive Committee shall determine which Departments and Divisions will provide ER back-up. Any decision that affects the level of service available to the community shall be made in consultation with the Hospital administration and be subject to approval by the Board of Trustees.
5. Members of the Medical Staff under FPPE/Proctoring shall not be included on the ER back-up roster until all core privilege FPPE/Proctoring requirements are met.

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

6. ER call shall be considered mandatory for all physicians. If a Department can demonstrate it has adequate ER call coverage, the Department may submit a request for waiver of this requirement. The request for waiver must be in writing to the Medical Executive Committee for approval the Medical Executive Committee will not grant approval of a waiver without consulting with Hospital Administration to assure there will be no impact on ER call coverage or impact on other departments or services.
7. Physicians sixty (60) years of age or older may be exempted from the emergency call as long as adequate coverage continues to be provided in that specialty. Requests must be in writing to the appropriate department and Medical Executive Committee for exemption.
8. During term of office, the President of the Medical Staff may be excused from serving on the emergency back-up schedule if approved by the applicable Clinical Service Committee and the Medical Executive Committee.
9. Each ER call panel is to be comprised of physicians who have been granted privileges within that specialty. There is one call schedule and if the physician receives a call from the Emergency Department and they do not hold the privilege or it is out of their scope of care, it is their responsibility to find appropriate coverage. When an unassigned pediatric patient is presented to the Emergency Department, the Emergency Department will contact the on-call physician as follows:
  - Patients age zero (0) years – seventeen (17) years will be assigned to pediatrics; and Pediatric patients age five (5) years and above who require surgical intervention and have no medical condition which would require a pediatric consultation will be admitted by the surgeon. If the surgeon is uncomfortable with admitting the patient due to medical complications, a pediatric consultation can be obtained and the pediatrician can admit. If a conflict arises, the chain of command will be initiated.
10. Call Panels and Existing Physician Relationships
  - a. The Emergency Department will maintain a listing of on-call panels that may be comprised as follows:
    - Hospital Designated On-Call Panels (Hospital On-Call Panel) - which may include contracted and non-contracted on-call panels maintained by the Hospital;
    - Alternate On-Call Panels (Alternate On-Call Panel) - established by non-Hospital parties, where continuity of care is respected. Such panels must identify and include specialists and not solely rely on a Hospitalist to respond to requests for assistance from the Emergency Department and;
    - Designated Primary Care Coverage Arrangements – arrangements whereby a community primary care physician designates another primary care physician or Hospitalist who is a Member of the Hospital’s Medical Staff with admitting privileges to care for their patients.
  - b. Patients presenting in the Emergency Department will be asked if they have an established relationship with a primary care physician on the staff at San Antonio Regional Hospital. Such physicians may be a specialist who has provided care to a patient for an extended period such that the patient identifies the physician as their principal physician (i.e., Cardiologist). These physicians are referred to herein as “Assigned Patient Physicians”.
  - c. The determination as to whether an Emergency Department patient requires the services of all on-call panels or other physician rests solely with the Emergency Department physician caring for the Emergency Department patient in their sole discretion.
  - d. If a patient presents to the Emergency Department with need for immediate care by specialists, there is no discretion as to which physician or panel to call; the Hospital on-call panel will be called and engaged. The Hospital on-call panel physician must respond to the Emergency Department within thirty (30) minutes and be in the Emergency Department within thirty (30) minutes after being contacted by the Emergency Department or such other timing in the

discretion of the Emergency Medicine physician caring for the patient. (Medical staff Rules and Regulations, Section I, L, ER Backup Responsibilities).

- e. If a patient presents with an emergent condition, a condition that does not require immediate care, the Emergency Department physician may utilize an alternate on-call panel physician, a designated primary care coverage physician or an assigned patient physician. If these physicians do not respond within thirty (30) minutes their designated back-up physician will be called. If any of these alternative physicians are unavailable or do not respond as provided in the Medical Staff Rules and Regulations, in the sole discretion of the Emergency Medicine physician caring for the patient, the Hospital on-call panel physician shall be notified and must respond timely (“replacement Hospital on-call panel physician”). The replacement Hospital on-call panel physician shall become the designated on-call response physician for that patient and will provide care necessary to stabilize the patient’s condition, even if the alternative panel physician arrives after the Hospital on-call panel has been engaged. In these cases, coverage by the Hospital on-call panel physician may continue through the entire inpatient stay if a safe transfer of care to an alternate on-call panel member cannot be accomplished. The determination of a safe transfer of care is in the sole discretion of the Hospital on-call panel physician.
  - f. Any physician requested to provide services to Emergency Department patients by Emergency Department physicians, whether the Emergency Department on-call panel physician or an alternative physician, must respond timely and must be involved in the case until the patient’s condition is stabilized including the provision of treatment in the Emergency Department or as an inpatient. The requirements for the provision of care for contracted on-call physicians must be met in all cases including post discharge follow-up care, or care coordination, related to the admission as appropriate.
  - g. Failure to respond or provide care as provided in this policy is subject to Medical Staff and Hospital policies and procedures including the filing of a risk report in MIDAS, MPEC review and action as well as corrective action contained in agreements between the Hospital and the contracted on-call physicians.
11. Cardiology Division ER Backup Requirements
- a. The Cardiology backup roster is to be comprised of Active Staff Members with unrestricted privileges for invasive procedures as follows:
    - Intra-Aortic Balloon Pump Insertion or Impella (PVAD)
    - Cardiac Catheterization
    - Percutaneous Coronary Intervention
  - b. Cardiologists must be available to respond within fifteen (15) minutes by phone and thirty (30) minutes in person when requested (or make appropriate arrangements with another cardiologist).
  - c. New cardiologists will not be placed on the Cardiology ED On-Call backup roster until they have been removed from FPPE/Proctoring for the procedures noted in 11.a.

## **O. Communication Skills**

Communication with patients, other physicians and Hospital personnel is essential for quality patient care. Therefore, only physicians, Dentists and Podiatrists who are able to communicate in English in a comprehensible manner, both orally and in writing, may be admitted as members of the Medical Staff. The following procedure shall be used to determine whether the applicant possesses satisfactory communication skills.

1. At the discretion of the Credentials Committee Chair, the applicant may be interviewed by the Credentials Committee.

2. The Credentials Committee may also, at its discretion, require the applicant to submit additional proof of their communication skills.
3. An applicant may also submit information which demonstrates their ability to arrange for an effective means of meeting the Hospital's needs to assure that there is adequate communication of the medical and administrative information that is required to maintain the standard of patient care.

**P. Observers**

Physicians on the Medical Staff may have a medical observer accompany them within the facility, with approval to be granted on an individual basis in accordance with the Medical Staff Observer Policy #8710.4400.

**Q. FPPE/Proctoring Guidelines**

1. Initial FPPE/Proctoring guidelines are determined by each clinical department and/or specialty.
2. FPPE/Proctoring must be done by a Medical Staff Member with similar privileges. Any privileges delineated with direct observation shall be applicable to initial cases.
3. To achieve compliance with Article V, Section 5.3 of the Bylaws, documentation of satisfactory FPPE/Proctoring from other licensed acute care Hospitals can be considered as part (up to 50%) of the FPPE/Proctoring process (exception: The Department of Surgery does not accept reciprocal proctoring.)
4. If there is no Medical Staff Member with similar privileges, the MEC may approve an outside physician with known expertise in exercising these privileges at another Hospital, solely to proctor the physician requesting these privileges.
5. Associates in practice may act as a proctor for no more than 50% of required cases. In the event of conflicts of interest or inability to meet this requirement, an exception may be made by the MEC.
6. Departmental and/or specialty specific FPPE requirements are noted on the respective delineation of privilege forms.
7. The procedure may not commence until the proctor has arrived as they are expected to be present from inception of the surgery/procedure until they are satisfied the case is proceeding to an appropriate conclusion.

**Requesting Practitioner Responsibilities:**

- The practitioner must secure a proctor before the procedure and must inform the applicable department (e.g., GI Lab, OR, etc.) with the name of the proctor for each case in advance of the day of the procedure(s).
- The practitioner will discuss the case(s) with the proctor ahead of time, including the pre-operative indications and evaluation.
- Proctoring must be for consecutive cases and completed before the end of the provisional time period. Additional time may be granted under extenuating circumstances. Failure to complete proctoring within the Provisional period may result in loss of Medical Staff membership and/or privileges.
- In emergency cases, attempts should be made to obtain a proctor. The physician however maintains the ability to proceed without a proctor for patient safety.

## **R. Committee/Division Chairmanship**

To ensure continuity, chair of all Medical Staff Committees must be invited to serve on that Committee for the year following their term as Chair of the respective Committee.

## **S. Name Badges**

All Members of the Medical Staff and AHP Staff are required to wear an SARH issued identification badge.

## **T. Grandfathering Provision**

The Medical Executive Committee may approve additional requirements for Medical Staff members with regard to post-graduate training, Board eligibility or Board Certification. It is the policy of the Medical Executive Committee to exempt existing Members of the Medical Staff from these additional requirements if they are Medical Staff Members at the time the requirements are approved.

## **U. Patient Safety**

1. Critical Test Results – All verbal or telephone reports of any critical test results will be repeated back by the physician. Whenever it is feasible to have a printed copy (fax, computer print-out, etc.) of the report with the “critical test results”, it should also be used instead of relying solely on verbal/telephone information.

The Medical Staff defines critical test results requiring verbal read-back as follows:

- a. Any critical laboratory value as defined in the Clinical Laboratory Departmental Policies and Procedures.
  - b. Any abnormal radiology finding deemed by the Radiologist to require immediate verbal physician notification.
    - The Radiologist must call the attending Surgeon to report both positive and negative results for a possible foreign body in the operating room.
    - The Radiologist must call the ordering physician to report an acute cerebrovascular accident/stroke.
  - c. Any arterial blood gases (ABG) critical limits as defined in Respiratory Therapy Departmental Policies and Procedures.
  - d. Any pathological findings deemed by the Pathologist to require immediate verbal physician notification.
2. Abbreviations – The Medical Staff will refrain from using the abbreviations noted on the “Do Not Use” abbreviation list approved by the Medical Executive Committee and refer to Stedman’s Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Symbols book for acceptable medical abbreviations.
  3. Universal Protocol – Site Marking and Time-Out – Universal protocol guidelines are used prior to surgical or all operative and other invasive procedures that expose patients to more than minimal risk, including procedures done in settings other than the Operating Room, such as special procedure units or at the bedside (e.g. for procedures requiring informed consent). See Universal Protocol, Nursing Policy and Procedure.

This includes:

- a. Site marking requirements apply to procedures involving laterality (right-left distinction), multiple structures (e.g., fingers, toes, lesions) or multiple levels (e.g. spine).



- Mark the site with the initials by the person performing the verification. In situations where initials are not practical (e.g., eye surgery), an alternate mark on the skin may be used (e.g., arrow, small dot, etc.).
  - Endoscopic procedures involving paired organs (fallopian tubes, ovaries, lungs) shall have an initial on applicable side which remains visible after draping.
  - When the site marking is not practical or site marking is refusing by the patient, an alternate method of site identification should be used (distinct wrist band, temporary suture around the surgical site, etc.).
- b. Pause immediately prior to the start of the procedure. At a minimum, the Surgeon, Anesthesiologist, and the Circulating Nurse will participate in the pause/time-out procedure and verify:
- Patient’s name.
  - Patient’s MRN/FIN (or other approved identification number).
  - Procedure (word-for-word) as it is written on the consent form, including the Surgeon’s name.
  - Site and side marking: The surgical/procedure team will visually look at the site and site marking (if the site marking is required) verifying that the site prepped matches the consent form site and side. Note: The physician performing the procedure will mark the side (if required) if they have not previously done so.
  - Correct patient position.
  - Correct implant and special equipment/requirements available.

Active communication techniques shall be used. Each member of the team may signal their concurrence verbally, with a nod, or with some other gesture.

Any member of the team may suspend the time out and hold the procedure if there is a discrepancy or uncertainty as to the patient, the procedure, the side and site, the position, equipment or any other condition.

Should an interruption occur during the time out, all steps shall be repeated to completion before the procedure begins.

The fact that a time out was successfully completed shall be documented in the patient’s medical record. The documentation need not necessarily list all the matters reviewed, the discussion held or the exact time it was carried out.

## **V. Confidentiality/HIPAA Privacy Regulations**

Each member of the Medical and Allied Health Staff will comply with the Federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (“HIPAA”) as implemented by the HIPAA Privacy Regulation and the HIPAA Security Regulation (42 CFR Parts 160 and 164), requires the Hospital to implement policies and procedures to protect the privacy and security of “protected health information”. Protected health information includes any health-related information that identifies or could be used to identify an individual, including patient medical and billing records. HIPAA applies both to the Hospital and to Members of the Medical Staff. The Health Information Technology of Economic and Clinical Health (“HITECH”) Act requires breaches of security of unsecured protected health information to be reported to the Department of Health and Human Services and to the affected individual:

## **SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**

### **Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**

**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

1. The Hospital and Members of its Medical Staff practicing in the Hospital’s facilities are an “organized health care arrangement” under HIPAA. This allows the Hospital and Members of the Medical Staff to comply jointly with HIPAA by adopting joint privacy practices for the Hospital. It also allows them to share protected health information for the purpose of operating the Hospital.
2. The Hospital has adopted privacy practices for the use and disclosure of patient information within the Hospital. These privacy practices are summarized in the Hospital’s Notice of Privacy Practices, which is furnished to patients and posted at the Hospital’s facilities.
3. The Notice of Privacy Practices applies to all patient health information created or received in the course of providing health care or conducting business operations at any location operated by the Hospital. The Notice is given jointly on behalf of the Hospital and the Members of the Medical Staff. It does not, however, apply to patient health information at other locations, such as a Medical Staff Member’s private office.
4. Each Member of the Medical Staff shall abide by the terms of the Notice of Privacy Practices and of the Hospital’s policies and procedures for health information privacy and security, as amended from time to time. Medical Staff Members may not adopt or distribute a different notice of privacy practices relating to health information at Hospital locations. They may adopt their own notice of privacy practices at their private offices as necessary to comply with the Privacy Regulations.
5. Members of the Medical Staff may have access to patient health information as necessary to assist the Hospital or the Medical Staff with administrative or peer review functions. These include, for example, medical direction, administration of departments and services, and Medical Staff activities such as quality assurance and peer review. They include paid and volunteer services, whether or not they are performed pursuant to contract. Use of such information must conform to Hospital policies on use and disclosure of patient information, including the Policy on Use and Disclosure of Protected Health Information by Medical Staff Members for Hospital administrative purposes.
6. Each member of the Medical Staff, when practicing in the Hospital’s facilities, shall promptly report to Hospital any use or disclosures, of which Physician becomes aware, of Protected Health Information in violation of HIPAA or the Regulations.

#### **W. Hospitalist Physicians Program**

1. Purpose: The Hospitalist Physicians Program was established to ensure continuity of care and efficient care for patients admitted through the Emergency Department who, at the time of admission, do not have an established professional relationship with a Member of the Medical Staff. Primary responsibility for the care of such patients may be assumed by Hospitalist physicians who have entered into a hospitalist services agreement with the Hospital subject to the terms and provisions of this Rule.
2. Hospitalist Physician Contracts: All contractual arrangements between Hospital and Hospitalist for Hospitalist physicians services shall expressly require full compliance with the Medical Staff Bylaws, Rules and Regulations and policies including the terms and conditions of this Rule.
3. Hospitalist Physicians – Services
  - a. Hospitalist physicians shall be responsible to provide necessary primary care services for unassigned patients (i.e., patients who do not identify a current relationship with another Member of the Medical Staff in the Departments of Family Medicine or Medicine or other specialists with whom the patient has an ongoing relationship). The Emergency Department will contact the specialist identified by the patient if the Emergency Department determines that the Emergency Department patient is presenting with a problem that requires the care of that specialist.
  - b. Hospitalist physicians may also provide coverage for patients referred by other primary care physicians, with prior arrangements kept in writing in the Emergency Department, and may provide consultations as requested by other Members of the Medical Staff. Other Members of the Medical Staff may refer patients to Hospitalist physicians for primary care services, when clinically

appropriate. Other primary care physician Members of the Medical Staff, however, are not required to refer patients to the Hospitalist physicians. Physicians from other specialties may elect to refer patients to other Members of the Medical Staff, when clinically appropriate, for primary care services.

- c. If a primary care physician or specialist declines to admit their own patient who is deemed appropriate for admission, the patient will be referred to the Hospitalist physician on-call to assume full responsibility of that patient's care including selection of any appropriate consultations.
  - d. If a patient identifies an established relationship with a specialist who is a Member of the Medical Staff during their Hospital encounter, any Hospitalist whether or not under contract with the Hospital must utilize that identified specialist if the patient requires that specialist's care unless required by the patient's insurance contract.
4. Hospitalist Physicians – Qualifications: All Hospitalist physicians must continuously meet each of the following qualifications:
- a. Be qualified for membership and privileges in the Department of Medicine or Department of Family Medicine.
  - b. Be Members in good standing of the Medical Staff at San Antonio Regional Hospital.
  - c. Demonstrate training, experience and current clinical competency for the non-surgical management of acute facility inpatients.
5. Coordination with Other Practitioners
- a. Hospitalist physicians shall be responsible to admit and serve as the attending physician for unassigned patients in, or referred from, the Emergency Department requiring inpatient primary care.
  - b. Hospitalist physicians shall utilize the Hospital's Case Management Department to refer discharged unassigned patients to the care of other primary care, surgical or specialty physicians utilizing call panels established and operated in accordance with this section. The call panels to be used shall be those in effect as of the date of discharge. Hospitalist physicians shall not discharge patients to their own private office or clinic practice or to themselves or to other Hospitalist physicians to be followed at other facilities.

## **II. DEPARTMENT/DIVISION POLICIES**

### **A. Allied Health Professional Staff**

1. Definitions  
Allied Health Professionals (AHPs), Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants are dependent practitioners who:
  - a. Are permitted by law to provide patient care services within the scope of their license;
  - b. Are qualified by training, experience and current competence in a discipline permitted to practice in the Hospital;
  - c. Function in a medical support role to physicians who have agreed to be responsible for such AHPs;
  - d. Are not Members of the Medical Staff.
2. Purpose  
The purpose is to establish the rules and procedures for credentialing and the authorized activities of AHPs who assist in the care patients.
3. Conditions of AHP/Prerogatives, Obligations, Terms and Conditions
  - a. AHP Prerogatives
    - i. Provide such specifically designated patient care services as are granted by the Board of Trustees upon recommendation of the Medical Executive Committee and consistent with

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

- any limitations stated in the Bylaws and policies governing AHPs practice at SARH, and other applicable, State, Medical Staff or SARH policies;
- ii. Serve on committees when so appointed;
- iii. Attend open meetings of the Medical Staff or the Department;
- iv. Exercise such other prerogatives as the Medical Executive Committee, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, may accord AHPs.
- b. AHP Obligations – General Obligations
  - i. AHPs must have a supervising physician;
  - ii. AHPs and sponsoring or supervising physicians shall agree in writing to comply with the provisions of this Article;
  - iii. Meet the basic responsibilities required by Section 2.7, Basic Responsibilities of Medical Staff Members, of the Medical Staff Bylaws;
  - iv. Meet the general qualifications required by Section 2.3-1, General Qualifications, of the Medical Staff Bylaws;
  - v. Meet the obligations of article IV, Appointment and Reappointment, of the Medical Staff Bylaws;
  - vi. Physician assistants shall complete a Practice Agreement which is to be signed by all supervising physicians; the Practice Agreement shall include provisions for physician supervision and shall be subject to approval by the Interdisciplinary Practice Committee, the Medical Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees;
  - vii. Nurse Practitioners’ practice privileges will be based on standardized procedures which shall include provisions for physician supervision and shall be approved by the Interdisciplinary Practice Committee, the Medical Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees, and signed by all supervising physicians;
  - viii. Retain appropriate responsibility within their area of professional competence for the care and supervision of each patient in SARH for whom services are provided;
  - ix. Participate when requested in quality review program activities and in discharging such other functions as may be required from time to time;
  - x. When requested, attend meetings, of the Staff, the Department, and the Division;
  - xi. Refrain from any conduct or acts that could be reasonably interpreted as being beyond the scope of practice authorized by the Board of Trustees;
  - xii. Shall provide when requested, a listing of medical record numbers of patients with whom care, or procedures, were provided. This information will be utilized to identify records for random peer review and OPPE;
  - xiii. AHPs and supervising physicians shall be subject to peer review under the MPEC process;
  - xiv. AHPs and supervising physicians shall be subject to OPPE and FPPE.
- c. Patient Care Related Obligations – Allied Health Professionals
  - i. AHPs are authorized to perform only those activities expressly permitted under a duly approved “Delineation of Privileges” which have been approved by the Interdisciplinary Practice Committee, respective Clinical Department, Medical Executive Committee and Board of Trustees;
  - ii. AHPs may perform or document the history and physical and/or consultation(s) under the following circumstances:
    - a) H&P may be performed for patients admitted to the hospital for outpatient surgical procedures only. If an interval note is required, the surgeon would be responsible to complete the interval note.
    - b) Initiate consultations with concomitant communication with supervising physician(s). Consultations must meet the following requirements:

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

- All conversations and communications with the consulting physician will occur on a physician to physician basis
- The consulting physician will review the Mid-Level Providers consultation and co-sign it within 24 hours (greater than 85% compliance with this requirement will be enforced)
- The consulting physician will personally review all pertinent imaging to the consultation
- The consulting physician shall see the patient within 24 hours

Progress note(s) or discharge summary may be performed under the supervision of the supervising physician who are required to countersign all entries made in the medical record by their respective AHPs within twenty-four (24) hours;

- iii. AHPs that are authorized to dictate reports into medical records shall use their own dictation number and state the name of the attending/supervising Medical Staff Member for whom they are dictating the report. Dictated reports must be forwarded to the attending/supervising Medical Staff Member for counter-authentication.

d. **Supervising Physicians**

- i. A physician Member of the Medical Staff must complete the history and physical (Medical Staff Rules and Regulations, Section 1, A-4, General Rules and Regulations – Admission); except as noted above
- ii. All hospitalized patients must be seen daily by a physician Member of the Medical Staff (Medical Staff Rules and Regulations, Section 1, A-5, General Rules and Regulations – Admission), and document their visit accordingly in the medical record;
- iii. Supervising physician is required to come to the Emergency Department to evaluate the patient when requested by the Emergency Department or treating physician;
- iv. Patients must be seen by the supervising physician on the day of discharge from the Emergency Department and/or from an inpatient status;
- v. All patients must be admitted and discharged by a Member of the Medical Staff (Medical Staff Rules and Regulations, Section I, A-1, General Rules and Regulations – Admission);
- vi. All requests for consultations are to be made physician to physician;
- vii. Supervising physicians are required to countersign all entries made in the medical record by their respective AHPs within twenty-four (24) hours.

For all patients for which an AHP is participating in care and treatment, the supervising physician must perform a pertinent examination and so document their visit on a daily basis.

**B. Department of Anesthesia**

**SCOPE OF SERVICE:**

The Anesthesiologist shall provide anesthesia care for patients of all ages undergoing surgical, obstetric, diagnostic, or therapeutic procedures throughout the Hospital. The Anesthesiologist may also diagnose and treat acute, chronic, and/or cancer pain as well as resuscitation and medical management for patients with critical illness and severe injuries.

The Department of Anesthesia shall oversee the delivery of conscious sedation and anesthesia by non-Anesthesiologists in areas such as, but not limited to, Endoscopic Services Unit, Emergency Department, Labor and Delivery and Radiology Department. The Department of Anesthesia shall also direct Post-Operative Recovery Services in the Hospital.

**MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA:**

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

1. Completion of an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation (CanERA) Anesthesia Residency Program.
2. Be board certified in Anesthesia by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), American Osteopathic Association (AOA), or Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RC) or be a candidate for certification.
3. If not board certified at the time of initial appointment, certification must be attained within six (6) years of initial appointment. Failure to attain board certification within the required time frame shall result in the voluntary resignation of membership and clinical privileges.
4. Board certification must be maintained throughout the tenure of Medical Staff membership and privileges.
5. Membership and privileges shall be limited to partners or subcontractors of the group holding the exclusive services contract with the Hospital.

**Policies:**

The anesthesiologist must arrive one-half hour before the start time of the first hour case.

**C. Department Emergency Medicine:**

**SCOPE OF SERVICE**

The Emergency Medicine physician shall provide emergency medical care for patients of all ages. The Emergency Medicine physician specializes in the delivery of medical care of the acutely ill or injured patient presenting to the Emergency Department or Urgent Care. Care includes assessment, treatment, stabilization, and the performance of life saving procedures.

The San Antonio Regional Hospital Emergency Department is a Level II facility which provides emergency health services, twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week. San Antonio Regional Hospital is designated as a Paramedic Base Station and follows ICEMA policies. The Department of Emergency Medicine shall oversee the Emergency Department, Fast Track and Urgent Care services.

**MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA for EMERGENCY MEDICINE CORE PHYSICIANS:**

1. Completion of an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation (CanERA) Emergency Medicine Residency Program.
2. Be board certified in Emergency Medicine by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), American Osteopathic Association (AOA), or Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RC) or be a candidate for certification.
3. If not board certified at the time of initial appointment, certification must be attained within six (6) years of initial appointment. Failure to attain board certification within the required time frame shall result in the voluntary resignation of membership and clinical privileges.
4. Re-certification is not required of members whose board certification has expired.

Membership and privileges shall be limited to partners or subcontractors of the group holding the exclusive services contract with the Hospital.

**MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA for EMERGENCY MEDICINE PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIANS:**

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

Completion of at least two (2) years of post-graduate training in Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine, Internal Medicine or Surgery in an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation (CanERA) Program.

Board certification is not required.

Membership and privileges shall be limited to partners or subcontractors of the group holding the exclusive services contract with the Hospital.

**MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA for EMERGENCY MEDICINE URGENT CARE PHYSICIANS:**

Completion of at least one (1) year of post-graduate training in an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation (CanERA) Program.

Board certification is not required.

Membership and privileges shall be limited to partners or subcontractors of the group holding the exclusive services contract with the Hospital.

**Policies:**

**1. Patient Care**

a. While it is the primary responsibility of the Emergency Medicine physicians to attend the needs of the patient in the Emergency Department, these physicians may be asked to attend inpatients in need of immediate care in the following situations:

- All life threatening emergencies that occur in the Hospital involving inpatients will be at the request of the nurse in charge.
- In all situations where the Emergency Medicine physician may be requested to respond to an emergency or a non-emergency situation out of the Department, the Emergency Medicine physician will respond only when their absence from the Department will not jeopardize the health and welfare of a patient or patients in the Emergency Department.

**2. Pain Control**

If a physician does not provide adequate pain control, the Emergency Medicine physician will intervene, discontinue the procedure and will initiate the chain of command.

**D. Department of Family Medicine**

**Scope of Service**

The Family Medicine physician shall provide comprehensive medical care for patients of all ages. The Family Medicine physician treats acute and chronic conditions, as well as promoting disease prevention within the family unit.

**MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA:**

1. Completion of an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation (CanERA) Family Medicine Residency Program.
2. Be board certified in Family Medicine by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), American Osteopathic Association (AOA), or Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RC) or be a candidate for certification.

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

3. If not board certified at the time of initial appointment, certification must be attained within six (6) years of initial appointment. Failure to attain board certification within the required time frame shall result in the voluntary withdrawal of membership and clinical privileges.
4. Re-certification is not required of members whose board certification has expired.

**E. Department of Medicine**

Scope of Service

The Internist shall provide comprehensive medical care to adolescent and adult patients. The Internist manages and treats a broad scope of acute and chronic conditions, as well as promoting disease prevention.

Sub-specialists specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of specific diseases and disorders. The Department of Medicine includes, but is not limited to, the following sub-specialties:

- Allergy and Immunology
- Cardiovascular Disease
- Critical Care Medicine
- Dermatology
- Endocrinology
- Gastroenterology
- Hematology
- Infectious Disease
- Nephrology
- Neurology
- Medical Oncology
- Physical Medicine and Rehab
- Psychiatry
- Pulmonary Medicine
- Rheumatology

**MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA:**

Completion of an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation (CanERA) Residency Program or Fellowship Program in the physician's specialty or sub-specialty.

Be board certified in the physician's specialty or sub-specialty by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), American Osteopathic Association (AOA), or Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RC) or be a candidate for certification.

If not board certified at the time of initial appointment, certification must be attained within six (6) years of initial appointment. Failure to attain board certification within the required time frame shall result in the voluntary resignation of membership and clinical privileges.

Re-certification is not required of members whose board certification has expired.

**1. Division of Cardiology Scope of Service**



**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

The purpose of the Cardiology Division shall be to develop and enhance the Cardiology Program at San Antonio Regional Hospital. The Division shall be accountable to the Department of Medicine. The Cardiologist shall provide cardiology care for adolescent and adult patients. The Cardiologist specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of conditions, diseases and disorders of the heart and blood vessels, and manages complex cardiac conditions.

**MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA:**

- Current ACLS
- Completion of an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation (CanERA) Fellowship Program in Cardiovascular Disease, Interventional Cardiology or Cardiac Electrophysiology,
- Board certification/Board Eligible in the subspecialty of Cardiovascular Disease, Interventional Cardiology or Cardiac Electrophysiology by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), American Osteopathic Association (AOA), or Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RC) or be a candidate for certification.
- If not yet Board Certified, Board Certification must be obtained within six (6) years of initial appointment. Failure to attain initial Board Certification within the required timeframe shall result in the voluntary withdrawal of all clinical privileges in the Division of Cardiology.
- Re-certification is not required of members whose board certification has expired.

Cardiology Committee Membership: The cardiology committee will include all active cardiologists, one (1) physician from the department of medicine, one (1) radiologist, one (1) cardiac surgeon, one (1) emergency physician, plus representation from nursing and administration.

Medical directors and the director of cardiac surgery shall present statistical reports to the cardiology division.

**Cardiac Catheterization Lab:**

- a. Late Arrival of Cardiologist: If a physician is twenty (20) minutes or later for a scheduled procedure without calling to advise the Cath Lab of circumstances, this will be documented. If the physician still has not arrived after thirty (30) minutes after the scheduled time in the assigned room, the procedure will be cancelled.
- b. Intravascular Contrasts: Maximum on intravascular contrast for procedures done in the Cath Lab is 3.7ml x GRF, if exceeded the director is to be notified.

**Cardiology Department (Non-Invasive):**

- a. Electrocardiogram Panel Membership Criteria

The EKG and ECHO panel will be comprised of physicians who:

- i. Are board certified in Cardiology.
- ii. Are members participating on the STEMI Emergency Department call panel or Echo Panel.
- iii. Exception: Members presently serving on the EKG Panel will remain on the Panel under the Grandfathering Provision in the Medical Staff Rules and Regulations.
- iv. Physicians who read their own EKGs will continue to perform their own EKG interpretations.
- v. Members request to be added to the EKG or ECHO Panel must be submitted to the Cardiology Division for approval and forwarded to Medicine Department and Medical Executive Committee for final approval

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

- vi. Panel members will notify the department supervisor or department director if they are going to be out of town or are unable to cover their assigned week

Members request to be added to the EKG Panel must be submitted to the Cardiology Division for approval and forwarded to Medicine Department and Medical Executive Committee for final approval.

- b. Physicians reviewing any non-invasive cardiac study must notify the referring physician of any critical abnormality.
- c. Computerized EKG analysis must be over-read by a qualified physician.
- d. Turnaround Time:
  - i. Appropriate STAT Echocardiograms must be reviewed within one (1) hour and interpreted within six (6) hours of completion.
  - ii. Stroke Echocardiograms must be read within twenty-four (24) hours of completion
  - iii. Routine Echocardiograms must be reviewed and interpreted within twenty-four (24) hours-
  - iv. Cardiologists on the Echo Panel must read Stroke Echocardiograms within 24 hours and, at a minimum, 80% or greater within a two rotation cycle panel. In the event these guidelines are not followed, the member will be removed from the Echo Panel.
- e. Back-up for stat echoes shall be determined as follows: It is up to the physician requesting the stat echo to contact the reading physician to notify them of the study to interpret.
- f. Stat echoes for unassigned patients will be read by the Echo Panel Member assigned for that week with physician to physician consult by the ordering physician.
- g. Routine EKGs not read within 48 hours shall be moved to be read by the panel physician.
- h. All preoperative EKGs are to be read by 11:00pm the night before surgery. Those not read should be placed in the general box to be read by any physician before 7:00am the next day.

**2. Division of Gastroenterology**

**Scope of Service**

The Gastroenterologist shall provide gastroenterology care for adolescent and adult patients. The Gastroenterologist specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of conditions, diseases and disorders of the digestive organs including the stomach, bowels, liver, and gallbladder.

The Gastroenterology Division shall oversee the Endoscopic Services Unit.

**MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA:**

Completion of an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation (CanERA) Fellowship Program Gastroenterology or be ABMS or AOA Board Certified or Board Eligible in Gastroenterology.

Chairman Selection: The Division Chair shall be an Active member of the Division for a minimum of two (2) years and shall be appointed annually on an alphabetical basis.

Committee Selection: All Members of the Division shall be Members of the Gastroenterology Committee.

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

1. The physician assumes responsibility for scheduling only those cases that can be accommodated during his/her block time. Cases that exceed that time frame will be rescheduled as time permits.
2. Schedulers are on duty from 07:00-14:00 Monday to Friday as long as the unit is open. To schedule an outpatient procedures fax the information to: **909 920-4772**.
3. Inpatient procedures may be called to **909-920-4991**
4. Weekend & after hours emergency cases are scheduled through surgery at **909-920-4848**
5. The last procedure must begin at least 30 minutes before the end of the scheduled block time in order to be completed before the next physician's time slot. (earlier for a double or ERCP)
6. All procedures scheduled after the first cases booked for the day are scheduled "to Follow" at 30 minute increments. Start times are given as estimates.
7. A physician requiring to "bump" the schedule with an emergency case is required to speak directly to the physician who is being bumped. Emergency cases are considered highest priority.
8. Block time is released at 8 pm for the next day
9. Elective procedures must be started by 15:00.
10. After hours & weekends are for Emergency procedures only, except when special circumstances exist. All emergency cases are subject to peer review.
11. "Open block time" is reserved for inpatient add-on cases by the on call physician.
12. When scheduling be sure to mention if the patient is in isolation. Isolation patients to be scheduled at the end of the lineup.
13. Cases requiring general anesthesia are to be scheduled through the OR, **909-920-4848**.
14. When going on vacation, please let the ESU charge RN & ESU scheduler know ahead of time so that we can let other physicians utilize that block time

**F. Department of Obstetrics/Gynecology**

**SCOPE OF SERVICE:**

The Obstetrician/Gynecologist shall provide healthcare to women before, during, and after childbearing years. The Obstetrician/Gynecologist diagnoses and treats conditions, diseases and disorders of the reproductive system. Sub-specialists specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of specific conditions, diseases and disorders related to their specialty. The Department of Obstetrics/Gynecology includes, but is not limited to, the following sub-specialties:

- Gynecologic Oncology
- Maternal-Fetal Medicine (Perinatology)
- Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility

**MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA:**

**Obstetrician/Gynecologist**

1. Completion of an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation (CanERA) OB/GYN Residency Program.
2. Be board certified in OB/GYN by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), American Osteopathic Association (AOA), or Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RC) or be a candidate for certification.
3. If not board certified at the time of initial appointment, certification must be attained within six (6) years of initial appointment. Failure to attain board certification within the required time frame shall result in the voluntary resignation of membership and clinical privileges.

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

4. Board certification must be maintained throughout the tenure of Medical Staff membership and privileges.
5. All members who hold Obstetrical privileges are required to complete a fetal heart monitoring course and repeat the course every four (4) years.
6. All members who hold Obstetrical privileges are required to complete a breast feeding management course once in a lifetime.
7. All members who hold Obstetrical privileges are required to complete two (2) simulation drills per reappointment period; a six (6) month grace period shall be granted if the requirement has not been met by the reappointment expiration. Failure to complete the requirement following the grace period shall result in an automatic suspension of Medical Staff privileges until said requirement is fulfilled.
8. All members who hold Obstetrical privileges are required to complete Implicit Bias training.

Gynecologic Oncologist

1. Completion of an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation (CanERA) OB/GYN Residency Program.
2. Completion of an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation (CanERA) Gynecologic Oncology Fellowship Program.
3. Be board certified in Gynecologic Oncology by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), American Osteopathic Association (AOA), or Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RC) or be a candidate for certification.
4. If not board certified at the time of initial appointment, certification must be attained within six (6) years of initial appointment. Failure to attain board certification within the required time frame shall result in the voluntary resignation of membership and clinical privileges.
5. Board certification must be maintained throughout the tenure of Medical Staff membership and privileges.

Maternal-Fetal Medicine -Perinatologist

1. Completion of an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation (CanERA) OB/GYN Residency Program.
2. Completion of an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation (CanERA) a Maternal-Fetal Medicine Fellowship Program.
3. Be board certified in Maternal-Fetal Medicine by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), American Osteopathic Association (AOA), or Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RC) or be a candidate for certification.
4. If not board certified at the time of initial appointment, certification must be attained within six (6) years of initial appointment. Failure to attain board certification within the required time frame shall result in the voluntary resignation of membership and clinical privileges.

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

5. Board certification must be maintained throughout the tenure of Medical Staff membership and privileges.
6. Perinatologists are exempt from having to complete a fetal heart monitoring course, breast feeding management course, and simulation drills.

Reproductive Medicine and Infertility

1. Completion of an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation (CanERA) OB/GYN Residency Program.
2. Completion of an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation (CanERA) a Reproductive Medicine and Infertility Fellowship Program.
3. Be board certified in Reproductive Medicine and Infertility by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), American Osteopathic Association (AOA), or Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RC) or be a candidate for certification.
4. If not board certified at the time of initial appointment, certification must be attained within six (6) years of initial appointment. Failure to attain board certification within the required time frame shall result in the voluntary resignation of membership and clinical privileges.
5. Board certification must be maintained throughout the tenure of Medical Staff membership and privileges.

**G. Department of Pediatrics**

Scope of Service

The Pediatrician shall provide a broad spectrum of healthcare to children from birth to adulthood. The Pediatrician diagnoses and treats conditions, diseases and disorders related to pediatric patients. The sub-specialist specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of specific sub-specialty conditions, diseases and disorders related to the pediatric patient. Pediatricians also provide health services to include preventive care, and monitoring of physical and mental development. The Department of Pediatrics includes, but is not limited to, the following sub-specialties:

- Allergy and Immunology
- Cardiovascular Disease
- Endocrinology
- Gastroenterology
- Hematology
- Nephrology
- Neonatology
- Neurology
- Oncology
- Pulmonary Medicine
- Rheumatology

MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA:  
Pediatrician

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

1. Completion of an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation (CanERA) Pediatric Residency Program.
2. Be board certified in Pediatrics by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), American Osteopathic Association (AOA), or Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RC) or be a candidate for certification.
3. If not board certified at the time of initial appointment, certification must be attained within six (6) years of initial appointment. Failure to attain board certification within the required time frame shall result in the voluntary withdrawal of membership and clinical privileges.
4. Re-certification is not required of members whose board certification has expired.
5. All members who hold general core privileges/routine newborn care are required to complete a breast feeding management course once in a lifetime.
6. All members who hold attendance at C-Section privileges are required to complete an NRP course

**Pediatric Subspecialist**

1. Completion of an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation (CanERA) Residency Program or Fellowship Program in the physician's sub-specialty.
2. Be board certified in the applicant's Pediatric sub-specialty by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), American Osteopathic Association (AOA), or Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RC) or be a candidate for certification.
3. If not board certified at the time of initial appointment, certification must be attained within six (6) years of initial appointment. Failure to attain board certification within the required time frame shall result in the voluntary withdrawal of membership and clinical privileges.
4. Re-certification is not required of members whose board certification has expired
5. Subspecialists are exempt from having to complete a breast feeding management course.
6. All Neonatologists are required to complete an NRP course.
7. Membership and privileges for Neonatology shall be limited to partners or subcontractors of the group holding the exclusive services contract with the Hospital.

**Policies:**

NICU Privileges and Attendance at C-Sections - NICU admission privileges are granted as follows:

1. Full privileges will be granted to board certified or board admissible Neonatologists who have another Neonatologist to provide backup coverage. Pediatrics may continue to care for their patients up to their privilege level under the supervision of the Neonatologist.
2. Proof of current certification in neonatal cardiopulmonary resuscitation is a requirement for attendance at all C-Sections.
3. Consultations: When newborns require neonatal care the nurse may be allowed to contact the Neonatologist for consultation. Pediatricians will be responsible for physician to physician consultations in all other cases in accordance with these Rules and Regulations, Section F-

**H. Department of Radiology**

**Scope of Service**

The Radiologist uses imaging methodologies to diagnose and manage patients. The Interventional Radiologist diagnose and manage conditions, diseases and disorders through minimally invasive

procedures. The Department provides imaging services, imaging guided procedures, interventional procedures and therapeutic nuclear medicine.

**MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA:**

1. Completion of an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation (CanERA) Radiology Residency Program.
2. Be board certified in Radiology by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), American Osteopathic Association (AOA), or Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RC) or be a candidate for certification.
3. If not board certified at the time of initial appointment, certification must be attained within three (3) years of initial appointment. Failure to attain board certification within the required time frame shall result in the voluntary resignation of membership and clinical privileges.
4. Board certification must be maintained throughout the tenure of Medical Staff membership and privileges.
5. Membership and privileges shall be limited to partners or subcontractors of the group holding the exclusive services contract with the Hospital.

**I. Department of Surgery**

**Scope of Service:** The Surgery Department provides surgical care to inpatients and outpatients of all ages, on a scheduled or emergency basis. The department includes General Surgery, Cardiac Surgery, Vascular Surgery, Thoracic Surgery, Orthopedic Surgery, Otolaryngologic Surgery, Podiatric Surgery, Urologic Surgery, Neurologic Surgery, Plastic Surgery, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Ophthalmologic Surgery, and Pathology.

The Surgeon shall provide comprehensive surgical care to patients. Surgeons manage and treat a broad scope of diseases and disorders applicable to their subspecialty. Surgeons also provide treatment to patients who have sustained injuries. The Department of Surgery includes, but is not limited to, the following specialties:

- Cardiothoracic Surgery
- Colon Rectal Surgery
- Complex General Surgical Oncology
- General Surgery
- Neurosurgery
- Ophthalmology
- Oral/Maxillofacial Surgery
- Orthopedic Surgery
- Otolaryngology
- Pathology
- Pediatric Surgery
- Plastic Surgery
- Podiatry
- Thoracic Surgery
- Urology
- Vascular Surgery

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

**MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA:**

1. For M.D. and D.O. - Completion of an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation (CanERA) Residency Program or Fellowship Program in the physician's specialty or sub-specialty.  
For D.P.M. - Completion of a minimum two (2) year Council on Podiatric Medical Education (CPME) of the American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA) Residency Program in Podiatric Medicine and Surgery.
2. For M.D and D.O. - Be board certified in the physician's specialty or sub-specialty by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), American Osteopathic Association (AOA), or Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RC) or be a candidate for certification. Exception: Applicant's requesting surgical assisting privileges only do not require board certification.  
For D.P.M. – Be board certified or board qualified by the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery.
3. If not board certified at the time of initial appointment, certification must be attained within six (6) years of initial appointment. Failure to attain board certification within the required time frame shall result in the voluntary withdrawal of membership and clinical privileges.
4. Re-certification is not required of members whose board certification has expired.
5. Membership and privileges for Pathology shall be limited to partners or subcontractors of the group holding the exclusive services contract with the Hospital.

Committee Membership: Membership on the Surgery Committee shall consist of representatives from a variety of surgical specialties and a representative from Pathology.

Perioperative Operations Sub-Committee: A Sub-Committee will review performance goals on a regular basis to ensure maximum efficiency and utilization of the Operating Room. This Committee will be made up of the Chiefs of Surgery and Anesthesia, or their designees, along with the Director of Surgery, and the Chief Nurse Executive. This Committee will be charged with ensuring that targets for block utilization, room utilization, and performance indicators such as on time starts and turnover times are continually monitored for improvement.

**Policies:**

1. Late Arrival of Surgeons  
First hour-Surgeon must be available to see their patient in the holding room by 7:00am.
  - a. Any Surgeon tardiness that results in two (2) late first-hour starts (in the same day block room) in a quarter will receive a warning letter from the Department of Surgery.
  - b. Any Surgeon who receives a warning letter and has two (2) delays in the subsequent quarter will lose first case of the day scheduling privileges and will have to follow the first case placed in their block room regardless of the case length. Reinstatement of first-hour cases will be in effect starting in the next quarter if no further delays occur.
  - c. After the patient has been in the Operating Room for twenty (20) minutes and the Surgeon is not available, the patient may be returned to their room on the Nursing Unit.
  - d. Anesthesiologists shall not put a patient under anesthesia until the Surgeon is not only in the Hospital but available to start the procedure.
  - e. It is the responsibility of the Surgeon to remain in the Surgery Department after the induction of the patient has been initiated.
  - f. If an outside emergency arises, the Surgeon shall notify the Anesthesiologist and the Nursing Staff immediately.



**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

2. Scheduling Surgical Cases
  - a. There are seven (7) Operating Rooms available for scheduling cases Monday through Friday.
  - b. For any procedure being performed where active TB is suspected/being ruled out and when AFB smears or cultures are ordered (e.g. biopsy of pulmonary nodule, bronchoscopy) the scheduling physician must notify surgery.
3. Block/Reserved Surgery Schedule
  - a. The Surgery Committee, with the approval of the Department Chair, may grant a Surgeon a block day. This is based on consistent and predictable utilization of the time provided. Partial block time may be available on days with lower demand.
  - b. To qualify for block scheduling, a Surgeon must perform an average of six (6) or more hours a week of elective surgery over a three (3) month period. Surgeons shall be granted an initial allocation of one (1) full block day per month if utilization meets criteria and additional days may be added. There are a limited number of block rooms with at least one (1) room set aside (as the schedule permits) for first come first served scheduled cases. Surgeons requesting block time must notify the Surgery Director who then will speak with the Surgery Department Chair for approval.
  - c. Hospital Administration will provide the Perioperative Operations Committee a quarterly review of the utilization rate by Surgeon to determine satisfactory use of the block schedule. A utilization report will be given to the Committee by the Nursing Director of Surgery in January, April, July and October for each preceding quarter.
  - d. To maintain a block privilege, a Surgeon must utilize an average of 65% of the block time per quarter. Failure to utilize the full allotment may result in reduction of block time.
  - e. The Committee will notify a surgeon in writing within four (4) weeks of any decisions made regarding the granting or removal of block surgery time. In the event that a surgeon loses some or all of their block time, patients already scheduled for surgery will not be cancelled.
  - f. Block release times will vary by specialty and type of practice. Specialties and practices that are mainly elective in nature will have a one (1) week release time for all specialties except Robotic. Robotic cases must be scheduled two (2) weeks in advance.
  - g. Surgeons who are unable to utilize their block day because of other commitments (meetings, vacations, etc.) must release those days one (1) week prior to the day in question so that the released day will not be counted as unused time in the utilization rate. Exceptions will be made for Surgeons with illness or personal emergency.
4. Elective Surgery:
  - a. A scheduling clerk is available for posting and may be reached at extension 24975 or 26010. Scheduling hours are as follows: Monday through Friday: 0800-1630
  - b. The first case of the day is scheduled for 7:30am. All other cases thereafter are scheduled on a “to follow” basis. Specific times are not given on the “to follow” cases.
5. Emergency Surgery:

In the event of an emergency surgery that must take place as soon as possible, a surgeon may “bump” any case in the first available Operating Room Suite. The operative Surgeon is required to notify the “bumped” surgeon as a courtesy.

If the surgical nurse or affected physicians feel that a Surgeon has abused the use of a “bump”, the alleged abuse should be documented in a MIDAS report.
6. “Not Before”:

A case may be scheduled as a “not before....” if the operative surgeon has previous commitments and is not available before the given time or pre-procedure preparation will delay start. The “not before” time shall be construed as the earliest time that a case can begin. Start time will depend on balance of schedule.
7. Leapfrog

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

In order to support San Antonio Regional Hospital's efforts with Leapfrog, the following are desired annual volumes for practitioners granted any of the following surgical procedures:

- Carotid Endarterectomy: 10
- Mitral Valve repair and replacement: 20
- Open aortic procedures: 7
- Lung resection for cancer: 15
- Esophageal resection for cancer: 7
- Pancreatic resection for cancer: 10
- Rectal cancer surgery: 6
- Total hip replacement surgery: 25
- Total knee replacement surgery: 25

#### **SURGEON'S ASSISTANTS**

1. In order to be eligible for surgical assisting privileges, the following criteria must be met:
  - a. Any practitioner who has completed a Residency from an ACGME accredited institution;  
OR
  - b. Documentation of a minimum of three (3) months training in surgical assisting at an accredited training institution. Applicants under these criteria must be approved for surgery assisting privileges by the Department of Surgery only.  
OR
  - c. Documentation of experience in surgical assisting at another institution to attest current competency.
2. Surgical assistants must be Members of the Medical Staff or Allied Health Professional Staff. Dentists may only assist in surgical cases involving their own expertise.
  - a. When the responsible Surgeon deems a procedure to be an unusual hazard, it is their responsibility to obtain additional qualified assistants for the safe conduction of the surgery.
  - b. The surgical assistant shall be present for the time deemed necessary by the Surgeon.
3. Robotic Surgery Assistants:
  - a. Must be a licensed, practicing physician, or Physician Assistant who currently hold surgical assist privileges.
  - b. Must have documented evidence of having completed one (1) hour of hands on robotic orientation and skill testing conducted by Intuitive daVinci representative or prior training and experience during Residency and/or currently holds surgical robotic privileges at another TJC accredited institution and has performed a minimum of twelve (12) robotic cases within the prior twelve (12) months. (See Rules and Regulations for FPPE/Proctoring requirements)
  - c. Must have documented evidence of having observed one (1) successfully completed robotic surgery case including set-up, patient positioning, orientation of equipment, surgeon preferences, and the operative procedure (including undocking of robotic equipment).

#### **SURGERY EQUIPMENT PROTOCOL**

Equipment owned by the Hospital may be used by any Surgeon who has privileges to work in the Operating Room (special licensing or privileges may be required). Surgical equipment and instruments may be requested by two (2) Surgeons simultaneously. The following criteria will be used to make the decision of who will have preference if only a single piece of equipment/instrument is available..

- Surgeons working on their block day will have preference over those who are not.
- Immediate life threatening emergencies will have priority over elective cases.
- In all other cases requests will be handled on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- Priority surgeon will be advised to consider necessity.

#### **SURGICAL PROCEDURES THAT REQUIRE AN ASSISTANT**

- 1) There will be one scrub nurse/tech on all cases
- 2) There will be a qualified circulating RN who is responsible for perioperative patient care
- 3) The surgeon will arrange for an assistant for the case and inform the surgery scheduler
- 4) Use of an assistant in those cases which do not require an assistant shall be at the discretion of the surgeon
- 5) Emergency procedures are excluded for requiring a surgical assistant\_(An emergency is defined as a condition in which a patient is in imminent danger of serious or permanent harm or death and any delay in administered treatment would add to that danger.)

#### **ENT/OTOLARYNGOLOGY**

Procedures can generally be performed without assistance, although circumstances might arise (on an individual basis) in which an assistant would be indicated.

#### **OPHTHALMOLOGICAL PROCEDURES:**

Procedures can generally be performed without assistance, although circumstances might arise (on an individual basis) in which an assistant would be indicated.

#### **NEUROSURGICAL PROCEDURES:**

- |      |                                    |
|------|------------------------------------|
| 1.85 | Craniotomy for aneurysms; elective |
| 1.90 | Craniotomy for AVM; elective       |

#### **UROLOGICAL PROCEDURES:**

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 6.55 | Radical Retroperitoneal Lymphadenectomy |
| 7.30 | Prostatectomy - Suprapubic Radical      |
| 7.35 | Prostatectomy - Suprapubic Simple       |
| 7.40 | Prostatectomy - Retropubic Radical      |
| 7.45 | Prostatectomy - Retropubic Simple       |
| 7.50 | Prostatectomy – Perineal                |
| 7.70 | Any non-endoscopic prostatectomy        |
| 8.40 | Pelvic Lymph Node Dissection            |
| 8.50 | Laparoscopic Lymphadenectomy            |
| 1.20 | Nephrolithotomy                         |
| 1.30 | Nephrectomy                             |
| 2.40 | Ileal Loop Urinary Diversion            |
| 4.00 | Robotic Surgery                         |

#### **GENERAL SURGICAL PROCEDURES:**

- |      |                            |
|------|----------------------------|
| 1.35 | Abdominoperineal resection |
| 2.25 | Hepatectomy/partial        |
| 2.30 | Hepatectomy/lobectomy      |
| 2.35 | Hepatectomy/segmentectomy  |

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

- 2.40 Biliary tract surgery
- 2.75 Radical pelvic surgery
- 3.62 Esophagogastrectomy
- 4.40 Pulmonary resection/pneumonectomy
- 4.45 Pulmonary resection/lobectomy
- 4.50 Pulmonary resection/segmentectomy
- 4.55 Pulmonary resection/wedge
- 4.60 Pulmonary resection/sleeve

**CARDIOVASCULAR/CARDIAC CATH/VASCULAR PRIVILEGES**

- 1.05 Exploratory Cardiotomy
- 1.15 Cardiorrhaphy
- 1.30 Indirect myocardial revascularization
- 1.35 Ligation & Division of patient ductus
- 1.40 Resection, aortic co-arcation
- 1.45 Cardiotomy/repair septal defects
- 1.50 Cardiotomy/valvuloplasty, valvotomy or insertion of prosthetic valve
- 1.55 Coronary endarterectomy/endarterotomy
- 1.60 Aortocoronary bypass
- 1.65 Excision myocardial aneurysm
- 1.70 Excision intracardiac tumor
- 2.10 Arterial embolectomy/thoracic aorta
- 2.20 Thromboendarterectomy or bypass/thoracic arch & branches
- 2.30 Thromboendarterectomy or bypass/thoracic aorta
- 2.40 Resection aneurysm renal, mesenteric, hepatic
- 2.50 Resection aneurysm thoraco abd. aorta
- 2.60 Resection aneurysm pulmonary artery
- 2.70 Arteriorrhaphy/thor.aorta/branches
- 2.80 Venous thrombectomy/chest
- 2.90 Portal shunt
- 3.00 Splenic shunt

**PLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY:**

Procedures can generally be performed without assistance, although circumstances might arise (on an individual basis) in which an assistant would be indicated.

**OB/GYN PROCEDURES**

- 1.00 Cesarean Section
- 2.00 Hysterectomy; at surgeons' discretion
- 3.00 Ovarian Cancer Debulking

## **APPENDIX A**

### Catheter-Based Peripheral Vascular Interventions:

The practitioner must meet the minimum criteria as defined for their respective department.

The granting of these privileges will be by the respective Department Chairman of the applicant. Only those physicians in the following fields qualify for consideration: Interventional Cardiologists, Interventional Radiologists, and Vascular Surgeons.

Catheter based interventional procedures on extracranial or intracranial vessels are excluded from this consideration and shall have no change in present status of the granting of privileges.

The physician performing peripheral catheter-based intervention procedures should have the following minimal training and skill required for competency. The Department Chair shall, after consulting with the respective Division Chair when appropriate, shall determine, and based upon the evidence provided by the applicant, if the applicant has fulfilled the requirements listed below.

For those physicians with fellowship training in catheter-based interventional procedures, minimum criteria are as follows:

### Formal Training to Achieve Competence in Peripheral Catheter Based Interventions

#### Training requirements for cardiovascular physicians:

- Duration of training\*—12 months
- Diagnostic coronary angiograms ≠—300 cases (200 as the primary operator)
- Diagnostic peripheral angiograms – 100 cases (50 as primary operator)
- Peripheral interventional cases<sup>§</sup> — 50 cases (25 as primary operator)

#### Training requirements for interventional radiologists:

- Duration of training±—12 months

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

- Diagnostic peripheral angiograms—100 cases (50 as primary operator)
- Peripheral interventional cases<sup>§</sup> — 50 cases (25 as primary operator)

Training requirements for vascular surgeons:

- Duration of training —12 months <sup>¶</sup>
- Diagnostic peripheral angiograms<sup>¶</sup>—100 cases (50 as primary operator)
- Peripheral interventional cases<sup>§</sup>—50 cases (25 as primary operator)
- Aortic aneurysm endografts—10 cases (5 as primary operator)

Requirements for non-fellowship trained physicians:

For those physicians who have not had formal fellowship training in peripheral catheter-based interventional procedures, yet request privileges at SARH, they will need to meet the following criteria before being considered for possibly being granted these privileges.

1. Provide documentation of current clinical activity specific to the privileges requested.
2. Completion of training in catheter-based interventional procedures within a twenty-four (24) month period.
3. Training under the proctorship of either a formally trained vascular interventionalist or a vascular interventionalist fully competent and credentialed to perform the full range of procedures sought after by the candidate.
4. 50 CME Category 1 hours specifically related to vascular medicine, of which at least 30 hours must be specifically related to catheter-based interventional medicine. The CME must be completed within a 24-month period.
5. The physician must be board certified in their respective specialty field. Only those physicians in the following fields qualify for consideration: *Interventional Cardiologists, Interventional Radiologists, and Vascular Surgeons.*
6. The following are the minimum number of procedures the candidate must have completed. The case mix should be evenly distributed among the different vascular beds:  
Procedural requirements for competency:
  - a. Diagnostic peripheral angiograms – 100 cases (50 as primary operator)
  - b. Peripheral interventions – 50 cases (25 as primary operator)
  - c. No fewer than 20 diagnostic/10interventional cases in each area, excluding extracranial cerebral arteries<sup>≠</sup>
  - d. Percutaneous thrombolysis/thrombectomy – 5 cases
    - i. For interventional cardiologists, two of these five cases may be coronary thrombolysis.

FPPE Requirements:

1. Interventional Cardiology  
Minimum of (2) two direct observations per “bundled” procedure(s):
  - Left Heart Catheterization, Right Heart Catheterization, Cine Angiogram, Pericardiocentesis
  - Percutaneous Coronary Intervention; includes Stents & PTCA, Arthroctomy/Rotablator, IVUS, FFR
  - Intra-Aortic Balloon
  - Pacemaker, Permanent
  - Automatic Implantable Defibrillator (AICD)
  - Balloon Valvuloplasty

Percutaneous Transluminal Peripheral Angiogram/Angioplasty (PTA) - 3 cases

**SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL**  
**Medical Staff – Rules and Regulations**  
**Approved by the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2024**

2. Interventional Radiologists: 3