



# Mental Health Emergency Center

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## ADVANCED PRACTICE CLINICIANS

### POLICY STATEMENT

Advanced Practice Clinicians may come to the Medical Center and provide direct patient care services in certain circumstances. This Policy describes the necessary qualifications of such providers, how such providers are granted the authority to perform direct patient care services at the Medical Center, the supervising and collaborating relationships that are required, how the competency of such providers will be assessed, and the process for revoking such providers' authority to perform services at the Medical Center. All capitalized terms not defined in this Policy shall have the meaning set forth in the Medical Staff Bylaws.

#### 1. STAFF MEMBERSHIP

##### 1.1. Advanced Practice Clinicians.

An Advanced Practice Clinician is an individual, other than a Practitioner, who meets the qualifications for Staff Membership and Clinical Privileges, as set forth in the Medical Staff Bylaws, and has been appointed to the Advanced Practice Clinician Staff.

##### 1.2. Qualifications.

An Advanced Practice Clinician must meet the qualifications for Staff Membership as set forth in the Medical Staff Bylaws.

##### 1.3. Application, Staff Membership and Clinical Privileges.

An Advanced Practice Clinician must submit a complete application for Staff Membership to Medical Staff Services and shall be credentialed, privileged, and re-privileged through the Medical Staff process, as set forth in the Medical Staff Bylaws. An Advanced Practice Clinician shall only be entitled to exercise those Clinical Privileges specifically granted to the Advanced Practice Clinician in accordance with the credentialing and privileging process set forth in the Medical Staff Bylaws.

##### 1.4. Compliance with Bylaws and Policies.

Prior to the exercise of Clinical Privileges, each Advanced Practice Clinician must acknowledge in writing that he or she shall be bound by and is obligated to comply with the Medical Staff Bylaws, the Policies Governing Medical Practices, and all other applicable Medical Center and Advocate Aurora Health, Inc. (AAH) policies.

**1.5. Suspension or Termination of Clinical Privileges.**

An Advanced Practice Clinician's Clinical Privileges may be suspended or terminated as set forth in the Medical Staff Bylaws. Advanced Practice Clinicians are subject to the remedial action process set forth in the Medical Staff Bylaws and are entitled to the rights applicable to Advanced Practice Clinicians as set forth therein.

**2. SUPERVISORY AND COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIPS**

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**2.1. Advanced Practice Nurse Prescriber (APN).**

- (a) An APN must have a current written collaborative agreement with one or more Physicians and shall work in a collaborative relationship with such Physician(s).<sup>1</sup> The collaborative agreement must be in a form acceptable to Medical Staff Services.
- (b) The APN and the collaborating Physician(s) shall comply with the collaborative agreement and all other applicable requirements set forth by the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing and the Medical Center, and shall work in each other's presence whenever necessary to deliver health care services within the scope of the APN's professional expertise.
- (c) It is the responsibility of both the APN and the collaborating Physician(s) to provide prior written notice to and receive prior approval from Medical Staff Services of any changes to the collaborative agreement or relationship.
- (d) Certain medical record entries made by an APN must be co-signed. Refer to AAH's Hospital Co-Signature Requirements Chart.

**2.2. Physician Assistant (PA).**

- (a) A PA must have a current written supervision agreement with one or more Physicians appointed to the Medical Staff who will act as the PA's supervising Physician(s).<sup>2</sup> If the PA intends to prescribe medications, the PA must also have a PA prescription authorization form signed by a supervising Physician and evidence of annual written reviews of the PA's prescriptive practices by a Physician providing supervision.<sup>3</sup> Both the supervision agreement and the prescription authorization form must be in a form acceptable to Medical Staff Services.

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<sup>1</sup> Wis. Adm. Code N § 8.10(7).

<sup>2</sup> Wis. Adm. Code Med §§ 8.07(1) and 8.10(1).

<sup>3</sup> Wis. Adm. Code Med § 8.08(2)(i).

- (b) The PA and the supervising Physician(s) shall comply with the supervisory and all other applicable requirements set forth by the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing and the Medical Center, and shall work in each other's presence whenever necessary to deliver health care services within the scope of the PA's professional expertise. Supervising Physician(s) shall co-sign the PA's medical record entries in accordance with AAH's Hospital Co-Signature Requirements Chart.
- (c) No Physician may concurrently supervise more than four (4) PAs unless the physician submits a written plan for the supervision of more than four (4) PAs and the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board and the Medical Executive Committee approves the plan.<sup>4</sup>
- (d) The supervising Physician may designate another Physician to supervise the PA only if: (i) such designation is made in writing, and (ii) at all times the PA is able to readily identify the Physician currently providing supervision.<sup>5</sup>
- (e) Supervising Physicians shall be available to the PA at all times for consultation either in person or within fifteen (15) minutes of contact by telecommunications or other electronic means.<sup>6</sup>
- (f) It is the responsibility of both the PA and the supervising Physician(s) to provide prior written notice to and receive prior approval from Medical Staff Services of any changes to the supervision agreement or relationship.

### **2.3. Psychologist.**

Psychologists shall coordinate care with each patient's attending Physician, consulting Physicians, and other Medical Center staff caring for the patient. There are no specific supervision or collaboration requirements for Psychologists, however, certain medical record entries made by a Psychologist must be co-signed. Refer to AAH's Hospital Co-Signature Requirements Chart.

### **2.4. Scope and Standards of Practice.**

An Advanced Practice Clinician's practice may not exceed his or her educational training or experience and may not exceed the scope of practice of the collaborating or supervising Physician(s) (if any).<sup>7</sup> In addition, an Advanced Practice Professional may provide services only within the scope of the Clinical Privileges granted to such Advanced Practice Professional in accordance with the Medical Staff Bylaws. Such Clinical Privileges shall not exceed those granted to the collaborating or supervising Physician(s) (if any).

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<sup>4</sup> Wis. Adm. Code Med § 8.10(1).

<sup>5</sup> Wis. Adm. Code Med § 8.07(3).

<sup>6</sup> Wis. Adm. Code Med § 8.10(2).

<sup>7</sup> Wis. Adm. Code Med § 8.07(1).

**2.5. Competency Assessment / Performance Evaluation.**

Advanced Practice Clinicians shall be subject to the credentialing recertification, Focused Professional Practice Evaluation, and the Ongoing Professional Practice Evaluation processes set forth in the Medical Staff Bylaws and the Peer Review Policy.

**2.6. Failure to Maintain Appropriate Relationship.**

The failure to maintain appropriate collaborative or supervisory relationships, complete necessary evaluations in a timely manner, or otherwise comply with this Policy, may serve as the basis for corrective action against the Advanced Practice Clinician and any collaborating or supervising Physician(s) in accordance with the Medical Staff Bylaws.

**REFERENCES:**

**Wisconsin Statutes & Administrative Code**

- Wis. Adm. Code N § 8.10.
- Wis. Adm. Code Chapter Med 8.

**Code of Federal Regulations**

- None

**FORM(S):**

**MEDICAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPROVAL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVAL:** \_\_\_\_\_