
Physician On-Call Response

1 POLICY:

A process will be utilized to establish and maintain the physician on-call roster that meets the needs of the hospitals' emergency patients, including a response plan when a particular specialty is not available or when the on-call physician cannot respond.

2 SCOPE:

Clinical Chairman, On-Call Physicians, Nurse Consultant and Administrator On-Call

3 DEFINITIONS:

None

4 PROCEDURE:

	<u>Action</u>	<u>Responsibility</u>
A. On-Call Rosters and Access		Department Chairman
1.	Provide the roster of on-call physicians and if determined by the Chairman back up physicians, the first day of the month to be posted on NorthShore Intranet by each clinical department.	
2.	Assignments are based upon the clinical privileges granted to the staff members and each Clinical Departmental criterion.	
3.	On call rosters are available via NorthShore Intranet	
4.	The actual name of the physician on call must be on the official roster. (Listing the name of a group rather than an individual is not acceptable.)	
B. On-Call Physician's Responsibility		On-call physician
1.	Physician requests for changes must be submitted to the appropriate chairman or designee in writing. The Department must then change on the NorthShore Intranet.	
2.	On-call physician must be available by phone within fifteen minutes and in person within 60 minutes.	
3.	Responsibilities of the on-call physician for the assigned period includes: admission of patients, consultations, treatment and acceptance of appropriate referrals with no distinction of patient's financial status or insurance coverage, provide at least one outpatient follow-up visit within one week.	
4.	It is NOT acceptable for a physician, after being called, to decide that he/she is not available to provide patient care.	
C. Simultaneous Call and Elective Surgeries		On-call physician
1.	Simultaneous on-call duties at other hospitals are permitted only with the approval of the Department Chairman.	
2.	Scheduling of elective operative/invasive procedures during on-call responsibility is permitted only with the approval of the Department Chairman.	
D. Unavailability of On-Call Physicians		Department Chairman
1.	If a physician who is on call is not available upon request, it is the responsibility of the requesting physician to contact the back up physician.	
2.	If the back up physician is not available it is the responsibility of the requesting physician to contact the Department Chairman or designee to arrange for immediate coverage.	
3.	Failure of the active staff to perform such a duty shall be reported to the Clinical Chairman in writing and the Executive Committee of the Professional Staff.	

5 ATTACHMENT:

None

6 DISTRIBUTION:

Administrative Directive Manuals

7 POLICY RESPONSIBILITY

Professional Staff Leadership

In Coordination With:

Patient Care Services
Professional Staff

8 REFERENCES:

Internal

None

External

Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services, Emergency
Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act of November, 2003

9 REVISION:

The organization reserves the right to unilaterally revise, modify, review, or alter the terms and conditions of the policy within the constraints of law, with or without reasonable notice.

10 APPROVAL:

<u>Veronica Zaman</u> Signature	<u>Chief Nursing Officer</u> Title	<u>7/22/04</u> Date
<u>Ray Grady</u> Signature	<u>President, Hospitals and Clinics</u> Title	<u>7/21/04</u> Date
<u>David Kuo</u> Signature	<u>President, Professional Staff</u> Title	<u>7/29/04</u> Date

11 DATES:

Origination: 6/04 **Last Review:** 6/04 **Next Review:** 6/07