

ARTICLE XVII

INQUIRIES FROM AN INDEPENDENT UTILIZATION & EXTERNAL MEDICAL REVIEWERS

17.1 Inquiries

- (a) An accumulation of different Practitioner quality issues may result in sanctions impacting the entire medical staff and the Hospital. The Chair of the Quality Improvement Council will be notified by the Quality Director when either one (1) Practitioner or an accumulation of many Practitioner issues, reach the point of PRS intervention (e.g. corrective action plan, increased review, education or withdrawal of Medicare/Medicaid privileges). To avoid the impact of an external reviewer intervention for the entire Medical Staff, individual inquiries must be addressed in a timely and appropriate manner.
- (b) Any letters of inquiry, or correspondence pertaining to patient care that are received by the Quality Director from an external review sources will be shared with the named practitioner within 1 week. In order to provide a timely response and meet the expectations set forth by the reviewing agency, a timeframe will be set by the Quality Director and the practitioner. .
- (c) The Quality Management Director will then assist the Practitioner(s) in formulating and completing an appropriate and timely reply.
- (d) If the Quality Improvement Council Chair or the Hospital contact person is notified of an issue or sanction by either the reviewing agency, the beneficiary or others involved in the case and had not been notified of the initial inquiry by the involved Practitioner, the Practitioner involved will be referred to the Medical Executive Committee for immediate suspension of all hospital and admission privileges. This suspension will be for a period of one (1) week for the first offense, three (3) weeks for the second offense and total suspension for the third (3) offense.

Adopted by the Medical Staff on 10/17/90

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 12/13/90

Revisions to Section 17.1 approved by the Board of Trustees on 10/18/96

Revisions to Article 17 adopted by Medical Staff on 9/30/99

Approved by Board of Trustees on 10/28/99

Approved by the Bylaw Cmte 10/22/13

Approved by MEC 11/12/13

Approved by AMC Board 12/5/13