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Applicability AK - Providence Alaska MC

## Department of Orthopedics Rules & Regulations

# PROVIDENCE ALASKA MEDICAL CENTER DEPARTMENT OF ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY RULES AND REGULATIONS

## INTRODUCTION

Be it established that there will be a set of Rules and Regulations for the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at Providence Hospital; that subsequent to the hospital's Medical Staff Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, they will govern the conduct and business of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery. These rules and regulations have been drafted and established after considering the policies, rules and regulations of the Department of Surgery, previously established rules and regulations of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery, significant policies and rules recorded in previous Orthopedic Department meeting minutes, and final approval by the members of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery.

## DEPARTMENT COMPOSITION

The Orthopedic Department consist of the following sub-specialties; these sub-specialties are the approved sub-sections of the Department:

- Podiatry

## ARTICLE I - PURPOSE

The purpose of this Department is to promote and ensure good orthopedic care of the patients at Providence Hospital. To accomplish this the Department will screen applicants for staff membership,

review members category level, make appropriate recommendations to the Credentials Committee, promote means of quality assurance in the delivery of orthopedics, advise on orthopedic equipment requirements, promote up-to-date safe orthopedic care, and facilitate orthopedic education.

To this end the Department of Orthopedic Surgery espouses the scope of orthopedic surgery as that set forth by the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons as follows:

"Orthopedic surgery is the medical specialty that includes the preservation, investigation, and restoration of the form and function of the extremities, spine and associated structures by medical, surgical and physical methods."

All members of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery are expected to be capable of fulfilling the requirements of orthopedics by the innate nature of their training and according to their category level.

## **ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP**

These will be multiple categories of membership in the Department of Orthopedic Surgery. These categories of membership will be based on multiple factors to include training, demonstrated performance and department participation and are defined in the Orthopedic Privilege Delineation policy.

## **ARTICLE III - SURGICAL PRIVILEGES**

The definition and extent of a member's surgical privileges are determined by two factors: his/her category status and his/her delineation of privileges. It is the responsibility of each member to submit every other year their delineation of privileges sheet defining in which surgical areas they request privileges. Should their training and/or interests change, members may update the request at any time by submitting a new form to the Medical Staff Office and the Department Chair. The Department Chair will make a recommendation regarding the request to the Credentials Committee.

Members requesting privileges to perform new major or experimental procedures will have such requests reviewed by the Orthopedic Review Committee, who will make a recommendation regarding suggested privileging criteria and the appropriateness of the procedure to the Credentials Committee.

## **ARTICLE IV - DEPARTMENT MEETINGS**

### ***SECTION I: PLACE***

The Department of Orthopedic Surgery, Providence Hospital, will meet on the campus or virtually as recommended by the department chair. The Orthopedic Sub-sections shall meet as often as needed during the intervening months between the department meetings. Any items for approval review at Orthopedic Sub-Sections will move to the next Department meeting agenda for approval by the Department (with the exception of Sub-Section Chairs). All items for inclusion on the agenda of the Sub-Section or Department meeting shall be coordinated through the Medical Staff Services Department and appropriate Chair.

### ***SECTION II: TIME***

The Department of Orthopedic Surgery, Providence Hospital, will meet bimonthly, on the odd months of

the year.

### **SECTION III: CONDUCT**

The elected Chair of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery or his/her designated alternate will preside at the meeting. The Robert's Rules of Order will prevail at the meeting.

### **SECTION IV: PURPOSE**

The purpose of the bimonthly Department meeting is to conduct the business of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery, Providence Hospital. This business will include, among other activities:

- A. Elect officers annually.
- B. Approve Emergency Call Roster and system.
- C. Approve member category or surgical privileges changes.
- D. Evaluate and recommend acquisition of surgical/orthopedic equipment for Providence Hospital.
- E. Communicate pertinent information from other Providence Hospital committees, departments, or sections.
- F. Maintain liaison with administration, nursing personnel, orthopedic personnel, and operating room personnel.
- G. Evaluate and amend Department rules and regulations as deemed necessary.
- H. Conduct regularly a patient care quality assurance program.
  - I. Review quality assurance indicators annually.
- J. Evaluate and establish educational activities for the department.
- K. Conduct peer review as established by the Department of Orthopedic Surgery.

### **SECTION V: ATTENDANCE**

- A. Who shall attend:
  - 1. All members of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery are invited to attend.
  - 2. All members of the Sub-Section of Podiatry are invited to attend.
  - 3. All representatives of closely affiliated departments of Providence Hospital are invited to attend.
  - 4. Any invited guest are invited to attend.
  - 5. Members may attend meeting and vote via conference call.

## **ARTICLE V - OFFICERS**

### **SECTION I: CHAIR**

The Chair of the Department will be elected by the Department bi-annually in November. The Chair will assume his/her position on January 1. The Chair of the Department will fulfill the functions of this position as outlined in the Medical Staff Bylaws. It is understood and accepted that the Chair of the

Department functions in this capacity as a volunteer to assist Providence Hospital in providing good orthopedic care to its patients. The Chair will fulfill this obligation to the best of his/her ability but will not be considered responsible for all actions or omissions of the Department members. Any action of the Department Chair taken in good faith in relation to Department activities shall be fully indemnified by Providence Hospital.

Each subsection (identified above) shall elect a Subsection Chair among its active members for a term of two (2) years that shall report to the Department / Department Chair. If a sub-section cannot determine a Chair, the Orthopedic Department Chair may appoint subsection chairs.

### ***SECTION II:ALTERNATE CHAIR***

The alternate Chair will be the immediate past Chair of the Department and will assume the functions of Chair of the Department during his/her absence. If the past Chair is not available the Chair will designate an alternate to assume his/her responsibilities during his/her absence and inform the President of the Medical Staff of this alternate. Should the Chair of the Department be unable to fulfill his/her tenure as Department Chair, the alternate Chair will assume the Chair for the remainder of that tenure.

### ***SECTION III:ROSTER MEMBERS***

The Medical Staff Office will provide secretarial support for the Department. As the Department has no budget or income, a treasurer is not required.

## **ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES**

### ***SECTION I:PURPOSE***

The Department will establish committees to facilitate the functions of the Department.

### ***SECTION II:ORTHOPEDIC REVIEW COMMITTEE***

- A. This is a standing committee within the Department of Orthopedic Surgery.
- B. The purpose of this committee is to assist the Chair of the Department in reviewing or deciding, among other things, disciplinary matters, difficult credentialing problems, and prioritizing of major orthopedic equipment requests.
- C. The membership of this committee will consist of the Chair of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery and the immediate past two Chairs of the Department. If any past Chair is not available for a particular committee meeting (matter) the Department Chair will appoint a substitute.
- D. This committee will be convened by the Chair of the Department at any time to fulfill the requirements of the Department. The committee can also be convened at the request of any voting member of the Department to review or intercede in any serious orthopedic matter with which the member wishes committee assistance.
- E. The committee will convene at any location that is convenient for it to conduct its business.

# **ARTICLE VII - QUALITY ASSURANCE**

The Department of Orthopedic Surgery has adopted as its primary mechanism of quality assurance a systematic retrospective chart review procedure defined in the department's current Quality Improvement plan. This review will include, but not be limited to:

- A. Content review.
- B. Surgical indications.
- C. Pathologic tissue correlation with surgical procedure.
- D. Appropriateness of treatment.

The reviewer will utilize as the criteria for review his/her orthopedic knowledge, his/her orthopedic experience and any available criteria from the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons and other orthopedic organizations. The reviewer will present his/her findings to the Department and the Department, as a whole will act as the final indicator of quality of care. The Department Chair will carry out department recommendations.

# **ARTICLE VIII - EMERGENCY ROOM COVERAGE**

## ***SECTION I:EMERGENCY ROOM CALL ROSTER***

In order to provide better and effective orthopedic care to the patients of Providence Hospital, the Department of Orthopedic Surgery has adopted an Emergency Room call roster.

## ***SECTION II:GUIDELINES***

1. The Orthopedic Department will provide an orthopedic call schedule for the Emergency Room.
2. It is the responsibility of each orthopedist to maintain his knowledge and skills to provide emergency orthopedic care.
3. The Operating Room must maintain a sufficiently flexible schedule to facilitate scheduling of emergency and urgent orthopedic surgery.
4. Emergency Room physicians will refer all unassigned orthopedic patients to the orthopedist on call.
5. It is the responsibility of the orthopedist listed on the call schedule to provide orthopedic care, arrange to have his days covered by a substitute orthopedist or locate another orthopedist who can provide appropriate care. If the substitute orthopedist is unable to cover for the orthopedist originally listed, because of a change in privilege status, the responsibility for coverage shall return to the orthopedist originally listed. Schedule changes or trades must be submitted in writing. When triage to another facility is necessary, it is the obligation of the orthopedist on call to be involved with the triage process.
6. An orthopedist who does not fulfill his ER responsibility or find a suitable substitute is subject to suspension from all hospital privileges by the Department Chair, Executive Committee or the Hospital Administrator.
7. Sub-specialization does not exempt an orthopedist from the emergency orthopedic call

schedule, except that those orthopedists with an upper extremity fellowship approved by the American Society for Surgery of the Hand, may elect to be removed from the general call schedule and placed on the Orthopedic Hand call schedule, defined by their added qualifications. The number of weekdays, weekend days and holidays required of these members shall be comparable to that required of those orthopedists on the general call schedule.

8. Any member of the Orthopedic Department requesting exemption from the orthopedic call schedule shall request such exemption in writing to the Department Chair. Requests that are approved by the Department Chair will then be submitted to the Medical Executive Committee for final approval.

Exemption can occur if:

- A. the member has been on staff for 25 years  
**OR**
- B. is age 65\* or older; with a minimum of 10 years on staff.
  - Effective July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021, all requests for exemption shall be submitted in writing **6 months** prior to desired exemption effective date.
  - Effective June 20, 2017, exemption age has been changed from 60 to 65, with no grandfather clause; meaning members previously exempted due to meeting the requirements of 60 years of age will be required to again take call until meeting the requirement of 65 years of age.
1. Reinstatement may be at the discretion of the department chair.
2. ER call/start time shall begin at 0600 and end at 0559 the following day.
3. Orthopedist on EMTALA call will provide inpatient consults on all calls received from 6:00a – 5:59a

### **SECTION III: ROSTER MEMBERS**

The member who requests a change in the call roster is obligated to notify all appropriate parties (hospital, operator, Emergency Room, Medical Staff Office) of the call roster modification.

## **ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to change or modify the Rules and Regulations of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery can be made by the following process:

- A. Any voting member may propose an amendment at the bimonthly department meeting.
- B. The proposed amendment if seconded will be discussed at that meeting and approved for final adoption at the next monthly orthopedic meeting.
- C. It is the responsibility of the member who initiated the amendment to properly word the amendment.
- D. The proposed amendment will be circulated to all department members.
- E. The amendment will be voted upon at the next department meeting. The amendment will be adopted if approved by two-thirds of those present.

# HISTORICAL APPROVAL

REVISED: 6/88, 7/90, 7/92, 11/92, 11/93, 3/95; 3/99; 1/01; 3/05; 5/08, 11/11, 11/13, 1/14, 07/17, 07/21, 01/23

## All Revision Dates

04/2026, 05/2024, 01/2024

## Approval Signatures

Step Description	Approver	Date
Providence Alaska Regional Board	Governing Board Committee [RH]	04/2026
PAMC Medical Executive Committee	Medical Executive Committee: MEC [RH]	04/2026
Bylaws	ByLaws Committee [RH]	03/2026
Owners	Amanda Moomey: Senior Director Medical Staff Services [RH]	03/2026

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## Applicability

AK - Providence Alaska MC

## Standards

No standards are associated with this document