

Community Health Network, Inc.
MEDICAL STAFF POLICIES & PROCEDURES



Community Hospital East
Community Hospital North



Community Hospital South
Community Heart & Vascular Hospital

TITLE: ESTABLISHMENT OF A BONA FIDE PHYSICIAN/PATIENT RELATIONSHIP

PURPOSE:

To define at what point a bona fide physician/patient relationship has occurred.

INTRODUCTION:

It is the physician's responsibility, whether emergency room physician or non-emergency room physician, to have all patients stabilized before discharge or transfer.

Patients frequently leave the hospital or the emergency room AMA (Against Medical Advice). A bona fide patient/physician relationship occurs when the patient is seen by the physician in person.

POLICY:

If a patient returns to the emergency room or to the hospital, after signing out AMA, and the patient was not seen in person by an attending staff physician or by the physician on call, a bona fide patient/physician relationship has not been established.

If the AMA patient returns to the hospital for treatment, the physician on call must assume responsibility for the patient if a bona fide patient/physician relationship was not established prior to the patient leaving the emergency room or hospital AMA.

Reviewed/No change by Bylaws Committee:	11/16/05
East/North Medical Executive Council Approval:	4/15/2014, 05/16/2017
South Medical Executive Committee:	2/13/06; 10/8/13, 4/8/2014, 05/09/2017
CHVH Medical Executive Council:	4/14/2014
CHI Board of Directors Approval:	03/2006, 5/12/2014, 07/10/2017