TITLE: CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION (CPR) REQUIREMENTS

PURPOSE:
To ensure that physicians who perform CPR in our facilities have obtained the appropriate certification through the American Heart Association (AHA) or the American Red Cross. Note that online certification training, in addition to, hands on skills and cognitive assessment, is acceptable.

POLICY STATEMENTS:
It is the policy of Community Health Network Inc. that in every case where a person is found without respiration or heartbeat a physician qualified to administer CPR will be available to render that care.

Members of the Medical Staffs who have direct patient care contact from time to time encounter a patient in cardiac arrest or near cardiac arrest. The nature of medicine is such that certain specialties such as anesthesiology, cardiology, cardiovascular surgery, critical care medicine, emergency medicine, as well as the family medicine residents more commonly encounter cardiac or near cardiac arrests.

- **Anesthesiology** - The Anesthesiologist are required to attend the Code Blues that occur in the Operating Room. Anesthesiologist demonstrate competency in CPR by sustaining an active practice in their field of specialty and by the very nature of the specialty which undergoes ongoing peer review as per our peer review policies.

- **Cardiology** - Community Heart and Vascular Hospital (CHVH) is staffed 24/7 with in-house practitioners who are responsible for attending all Code Blues (when able) within the facility, excluding the Emergency Department and Operating Rooms. When unable to attend, Emergency Physician or Critical Care Physician will attend. All in-house practitioners who are responsible for code blue responses are required to be certified in ACLS. Competency is demonstrated by maintaining current Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certification, as well as through ongoing quality review processes.

- **Emergency Medicine** - Emergency Medicine physicians are required to attend code blues that occur in the Emergency Department. It is a requirement that these physicians either be board certified in Emergency Medicine or have current Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certification. It is our position, along with the American College of Emergency Physicians, that Emergency Medicine physicians maintaining an active practice in their field of specialty along with current board certification is adequate demonstration of ongoing competency to deliver CPR.

- **Critical Care Medicine** - Hospitalist, Critical Care, Intensivists and/or Pulmonary Medicine Physicians are responsible for attending all adult code blues that occur within the facility excluding the Emergency Department and Operating Room. Hospitalist and Pulmonologist Board Certified in Critical Care Medicine demonstrate competency by maintaining Board Certification as well as through ongoing quality review. Hospitalist and Pulmonologist not board certified in Critical Care Medicine must have current Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certification.

- **Pediatric Critical Care Medicine** - Neonatologist or Neonatal Nurse Practitioners are always on site to provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation in the NICU and are required to be certified in Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP). A Pediatric Hospitalist or Pediatric Intensivist is always on site to provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) and Pediatrics Unit. Pediatric hospitalists (when available) should attend pediatric code blues. It is a requirement that these physicians must either board certified in Pediatrics or have a current Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) certification. Competency is demonstrated by maintaining Board Certification as well as through ongoing quality review processes.
  - Locum Tenen providers must be board certified in Pediatrics and must maintain PALS certification.
Other members of the Medical Staff are not required to demonstrate competency in cardiopulmonary resuscitation on an ongoing basis, unless resuscitation is required for a specific Clinical Privilege. When present, any attending practitioner may initiate and perform CPR Hand related resuscitation activities in conjunction with those qualified physicians listed above. In any case, the presence of a qualified physician is assured. In every case, ongoing peer review and performance improvement is mandated.

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