POLICY #7
CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION
COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR MEDICAL
STAFF AND ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

COMMUNITY HOWARD REGIONAL HEALTH
KOKOMO, INDIANA

MEDICAL STAFF POLICY

APPROVED BY GENERAL STAFF 11-12-19

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to ensure competency to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) under emergent and urgent situations. Members 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, emergency medicine, and family practice residents more commonly encounter cardiac or near cardiac arrests.

- **Anesthesiologists**: Anesthesiologists may commonly address arrests in the operating room. They demonstrate their competency in cardiopulmonary resuscitation by sustaining an active practice in their field of specialty, which by the very nature of anesthesiology demonstrates competency in the maintenance and management of cardiopulmonary function.

- **Cardiologists**: Cardiologists may commonly address arrests as “Dr. Stat” on the floors. They demonstrate their competency in cardiopulmonary resuscitation by sustaining an active practice in their field of specialty, which by the very nature of cardiology demonstrates competency in the maintenance and management of cardiopulmonary function.

- **Emergency Physicians**: Emergency medicine physicians commonly address arrests in the Emergency Department and in response to “Dr. Stat” on the floor and in the operating room if requested. Their competence is demonstrated by sustaining an active practice in their field of specialty, however in addition CHRH subscribes to the position of the American College of Emergency Physicians, which holds that maintenance of board certification by the American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM) is a more than adequate demonstration of this ongoing competency. For those Emergency Medicine physicians who are not board certified in Emergency Medicine, CHRH requires current Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) and/or Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) certification, which is kept on file in Medical Staff Services.

Therefore, Members who respond to cardiac arrests within their field of specialty are competent in cardiopulmonary resuscitation so long as they maintain an active practice.
All other Allied Health Professionals and Members of the Medical Staff are not required to demonstrate competency in cardiopulmonary resuscitation on an ongoing basis, unless resuscitation is specific to a requested Clinical Privilege. For example, those physicians wishing to attend infants at C-section must maintain certification from the Neonatal Resuscitative Program (NRP). Current and valid ACLS certification is sufficient to demonstrate CPR skills.

Outcomes Management reviews “Dr. Stat” occurrences. If the performance of the Member or Allied Health Professional appears to be not adequate or competent, peer review will occur via the Medical Audit & Review Committee, with resultant actions occurring via Medical Executive Committee, as needed.

Approved by the Medical Staff Executive Committee of Community Howard Regional Health October 15, 2019

Approved by the Board of Directors Community Howard Regional Health November 20, 2019