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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14

7:00 to 8:00 am – Breakfast

8:00 am to 12:00 pm – Seminar Session

8:00 то 10:00 ам –

- Credentialing Jeopardy
- Credentials Committee Meeting Agenda o Applications of Dr. Hotmas and Dr. Sconder

10:00 to 10:15 $\mbox{am}-\mbox{Break}$

10:15 ам то 12:00 рм -

- Take Home Tips on Credentialing
 - o Develop Good Policies
 - o Align Your Contracting and Credentialing Processes
 - o Develop and Use Threshold Eligibility Criteria
 - o Use Waivers Sparingly
 - o Automatic Relinquishment
 - o Don't Process Incomplete Applications
 - o Manage Misrepresentations and Omissions
 - o Use the Telephone
 - o Speak No Evil Has a Cost
 - o Make Reappointment Meaningful

 $12{:}00 \text{ pm } - \text{Day } 1 \text{ Adjourns}$

5:30 to 6:30 pm – Cocktail Party (Neopolitan Ballroom)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15

7:00 то 8:00 ам – Breakfast

8:00 am to 12:00 pm – Seminar Session

8:00 to 9:05 AM -

- Credentials Committee Meeting
 - o Review & Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - o Conflicts of Interest
 - o Dr. Meddleson Access to Credentials File

9:05 AM to 9:30 AM -

• Wheel of Misfortune

- 9:30 то 10:15 ам
 - Clinical Privileges
 - o Introduction & Privileging Bingo
 - o Temporary Privileges
 - o Dr. Paul Monary Case Study (Criteria for Privileges)
- 10:15 то 10:30 ам Вгеак
 - Clinical Privileges cont.
 - o Justin Bourne, M.D. Case Study (Privileges that Cross Specialty Lines)
 - o Walt Wiley, M.D. Case Study
 - (Privileges for New Procedures)
 - o Telemedicine

11:20 ам то 12:00 рм

Legal Protections

 $12{:}00 \text{ pm } - \text{Day } 2 \text{ Adjourns}$

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16

6:00 to 7:00 am – Breakfast

 $7{:}00 \text{ to } 11{:}00 \text{ am}-\text{Seminar Session}$

7:00 to 7:50 AM -

• I Wish I Had Your Bylaws

7:50 to 8:30 AM -

- Credentialing and Privileging APPs and DPs
- $8{:}30$ to $9{:}15$ AM -
 - Dealing with Disruptive Behavior

9:15 то 9:30 ам – Вгеак

9:30 to 10:15 AM -

• Practitioner Health

10:15 to 10:45 AM -

- System Credentialing
- 10:45 to 11:00 AM -
 - Final Tips

11:00 am – Seminar Adjourns

Please Note: *The attire for the seminar sessions is casual and comfortable.*



LAUREN M. MASSUCCI

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LAUREN M. MASSUCCI is a partner with the law firm of Horty, Springer & Mattern, P.C. in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She works extensively with hospitals and their medical staffs in addressing a broad range of medical staff issues relating to practitioner credentialing, behavior, health and competence. She also assists them with peer review investigations, hearings, the development of medical staff governance documents and other related policies, and regulatory and compliance issues. In addition, she has assisted in litigation involving medical staff matters.

Ms. Massucci has served as an editor for the third, fourth and fifth editions of the American Health Law Association *Peer Review Guidebook* and the first edition of the American Health Law Association *The Complete Medical Staff, Peer Review, and Hearing Guidebook.* She is a member of the Allegheny County, Pennsylvania and American Bar Associations. Ms. Massucci has conducted several HortySpringer audio conferences on various topics and is currently a faculty member of the HortySpringer seminar *Credentialing for Excellence*.

HALA MOUZAFFAR

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HALA MOUZAFFAR is an associate attorney with the law firm of Horty, Springer & Mattern, P.C. in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She handles projects from each of the firm's practice areas, assisting clients on a broad range of corporate, regulatory, and transactional matters.

Hala is an editor and assistant editor of the firm's *Health Law Express*, a weekly e newsletter on the latest health law developments. She also served as an editor for the first edition of the American Health Law Association *The Complete Medical Staff, Peer Review, and Hearing Guidebook*. Hala is also the cohost of *The Kickback Chronicles*, a segment on the firm's podcast, *Health Law Expressions*, that discusses fraud in the healthcare industry. She is also a current faculty member of the HortySpringer national seminar *Credentialing for Excellence* and has previously served as a faculty member for the HortySpringer seminar *Hospital-Physician Contracts and Compliance Clinic*.

Hala earned her J.D. from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law and obtained the school's Certificate of Advanced Study in Health Law. While there, she served as a member of the University of Pittsburgh Law Review and as the publication's first Executive Editor for the Online Edition. Prior to attending law school, Hala obtained her B.S. in Neuroscience with a Certificate in the Conceptual Foundations of Medicine from the University of Pittsburgh.



Conflict of Interest Disclosure/ Disclaimer Statement

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Lauren Massucci, Partner Horty, Springer & Mattern, P.C.

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In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by the University of Pittsburgh and HortySpringer Seminars. The University of Pittsburgh is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

This activity is approved for the following credit: *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*TM. Other health care professionals will receive a certificate of attendance confirming the number of contact hours commensurate with the extent of participation in this activity.

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NAMSS Accreditation

This program has been approved by the National Association Medical Staff Services for up to 11.25 hours continuing education credit(s). Accreditation of this educational content in no way implies endorsement or sponsorship by NAMSS.

Target Audience

- Credentials Committee members
- Medical Staff Officers
- VPMAs, CMOs
- Department Chiefs
- Medical Staff Professionals
- Management involved in credentialing
- Board and Medical Staff members who serve on the Professional Affairs, Performance Improvement or Quality Committee

Educational Intent

This program is intended for individuals who are responsible for credentialing and recredentialing. Upon completion of this program, participants should be able to identify legal issues that affect credentialing and should be able to define the benefits of having policies and procedures to address problem practitioners. Participants should also gain insight into the process and procedure for the credentialing and recredentialing of physicians and allied health professionals.

Slide Text

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November 14-16, 2024

Welcome to

Credentialing for Excellence

November 14-16, 2024 Las Vegas, NV

Lauren Massucci & Hala Mouzaffar

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CREDENTIALING JEOPARDY!

Credentials Committee Meeting



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Motion:

Send a letter to Dr. Hotmas

- (1) notifying him of the issues with his application,
- (2) requesting additional information, and
- (3) informing him that his application will not be processed until required information is received.

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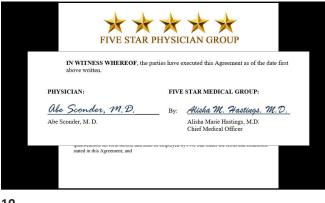
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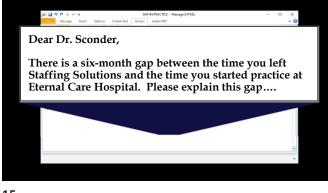


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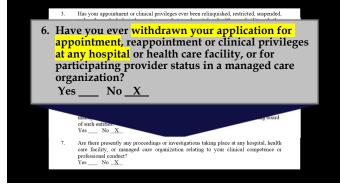
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Has your appointment or clinical privileges over been relinquished restricted, suspended. Have you ever withdrawn your application for appointment, reappointment or clinical privileges at any hospital or health care facility, or for participating provider status in a managed care organization? Iftee provide status in a managed care organization of such entire? Yes ____ No _X__ Are here presently any proceedings or investigations taking place at any hospital, health care facility or your clinical competence or professional conduct? Yes ____ No _X__

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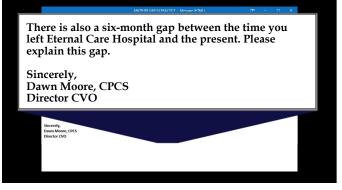
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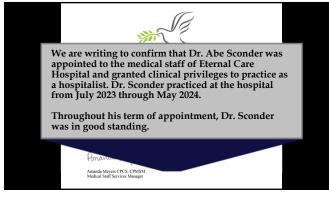


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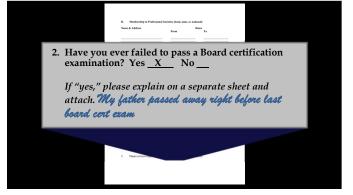


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We are writing to confirm that Dr. Abe Sconder was appointed to the medical staff of Eternal Care Hospital and granted clinical privileges to practice as a hospitalist. Dr. Sconder practiced at the hospital from July 2023 through May 2024. Throughout his term of appointment, Dr. Sconder was in good standing.

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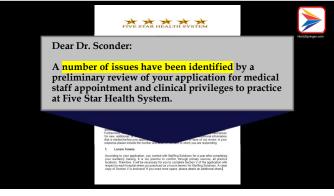
Issues:

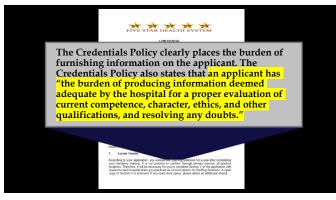
- Hospitals worked as locum tenens
- 6-month gap after locum tenens
- Three Midnight Medical Center
- Need more information from Eternal Care Hospital
- Less than two years at Eternal Care Hospital
- 6-month gap after Eternal Care Hospital
- Not board certified

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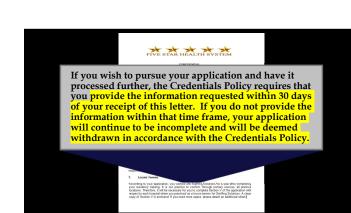


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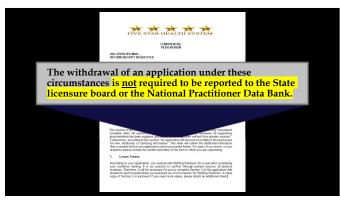
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Getting more out of references:

- Remind them of credentialing goals
- Remind them of protections
- Plan ahead ask detailed questions
- Ask about documents
- Ask who else might have information
- Ask about litigation/settlement

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What did we learn from Dr. Caan?

- Dr. Sconder drove a hard bargain with employer
- Nice enough guy
- Things didn't work out, never practiced there
- Made unreasonable demands
- Hospital rethought whether he was right for job
- Submitted application
- MSO had questions, he was slow to respond
- Missed start date, contract pulled
- Didn't repay signing bonus
- Litigation over bonus

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Issues with sharing information:

- Waiver of peer review privilege
- Claim for breach of confidentiality
- Claim for tortious interference

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Sharing Non-Privileged Information Among Affiliated Entities	
Best Practice:	
 Authorization to share information among affiliated entities 	
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Authorization to Share Information Among Affiliated Entities	
Include on :	

- Application form
- Bylaws/Credentials Policy

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- Authorization to share information
- Information sharing policy

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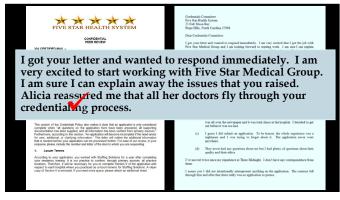
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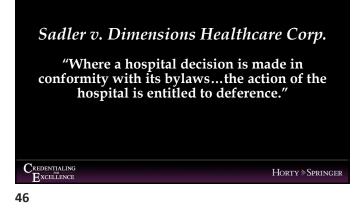
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Las Vegas, NV November 14-16, 2024 "Good" policies?

• Fair
• Thorough
• Legally compliant
• Easy to use...

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In Re Peer Review Action

"Significant" and "repeated" disregard of Bylaws can result in finding that hospital acted with "malice," resulting in loss of immunity.

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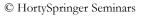
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Sing from the same song sheet:

- Know your counterparts
- Share timelines and checklists
- Share information when possible
- Align incentives

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Practical suggestions:

- Coordinate timing of contract offer and appointment application
- Reinforce importance of credentialing





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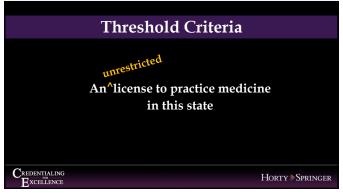
Objective, threshold eligibility criteria:

- Screen out individuals with a checkered past
- Reduce the risk of discrimination claims
- Help manage NPDB reporting obligations
- Required for all practitioners (as applicable)

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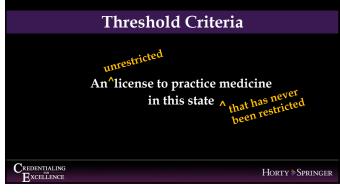


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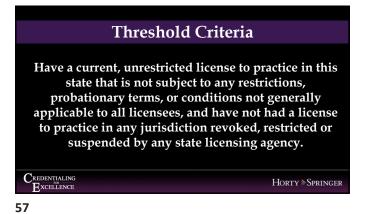


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Other objective, threshold eligibility criteria:

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- Board certification/APP certification
- Not terminated from another staff
- No felony convictions
- Not excluded from Medicare

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Threshold Criteria – Vaccine Requirements

To be eligible, an individual must:

"document compliance with immunization and health screening requirements (e.g., TB testing, <u>mandatory vaccines</u>, and infectious agent exposures)."

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Pros

- May provide a "second chance" opportunity for a physician
- Ensures hospital, medical staff, and patients do not miss out on talent unnecessarily

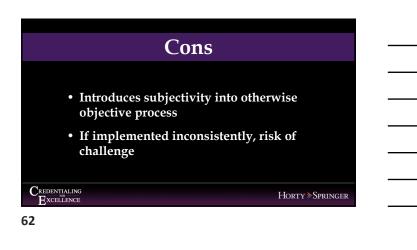
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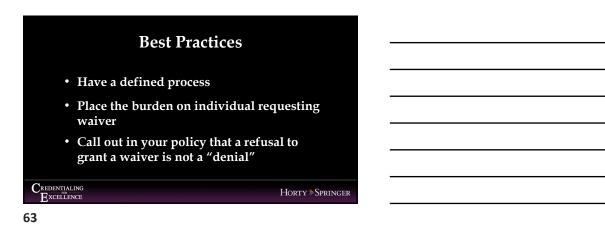
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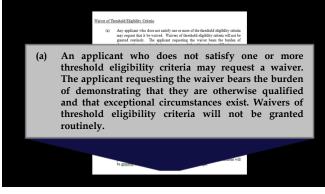
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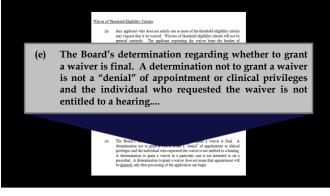






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Factors to Consider

- What is the nature of the disqualifying factor?
- Is there more than one disqualifying factor?
- Was the disqualifying factor completely resolved?
- Was the disqualifying factor recent?

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Factors to Consider

- Does the applicant have other exceptional qualifications?
- Is the hospital having a lapse in coverage?
- Is there a need in the community for the services of the applicant?

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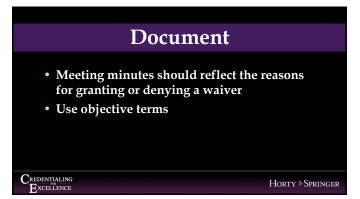
Use Waivers Sparingly

- When *exceptional* circumstances exist
- **<u>NOT</u>** because the threshold criteria are more stringent than you feel comfortable with
- <u>NOT</u> because the practitioner has been recruited and/or already moved to town

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Automatic Relinquishment

- External events
- Action or inaction by practitioner related to an objective qualification or condition of appointment and privileges

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Automatic Relinquishment for:

- Failure to complete medical records
- Failure to satisfy threshold eligibility criteria
- Criminal activity
- Failure to attend a mandatory meeting

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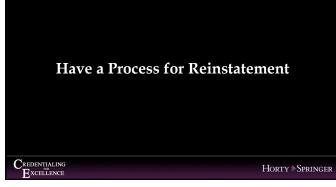
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Automatic Relinquishment for:

- Failure to comply with request for fitness for practice evaluation or competency assessment
- Failure to provide requested information
- Failure to maintain access to EMR

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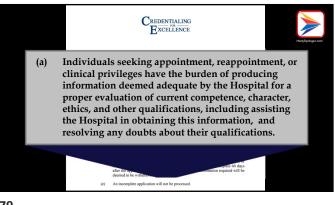
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Automatic Resignation if Not Reinstated Within 60 Days

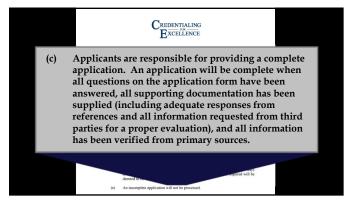
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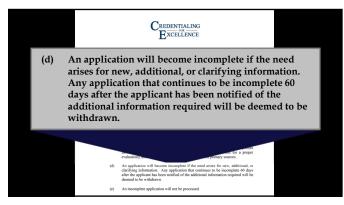




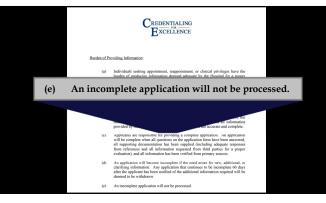
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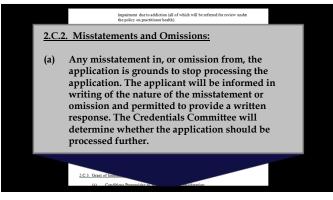
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incomplete application. Credentialing
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MANAGE MISSTATEMENTS AND OMISSIONS EFFECTIVELY!

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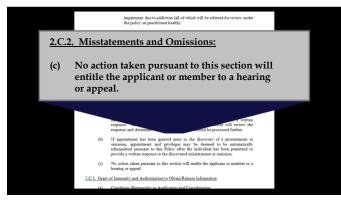


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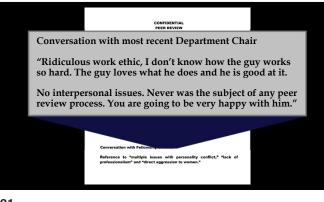
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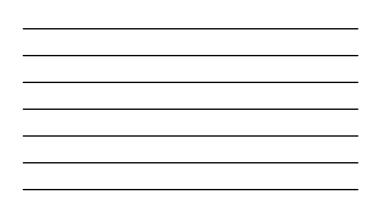


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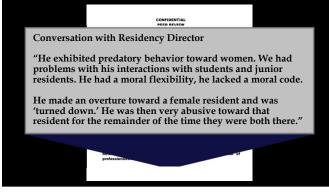


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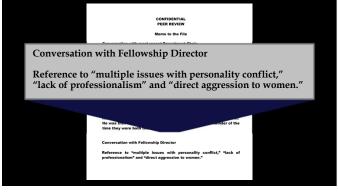




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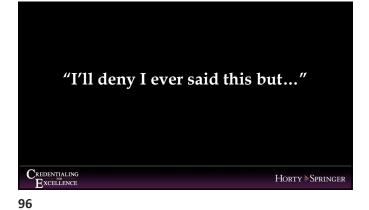


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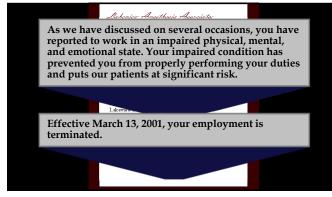


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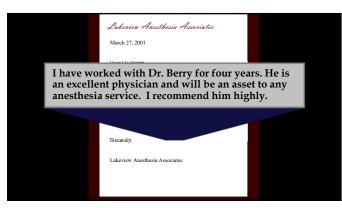


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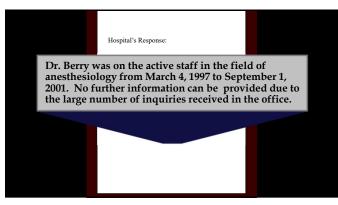


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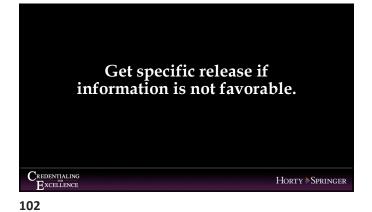


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OPPE REPORTS

- 1. Activity during OPPE period (Reports run at least every 12 months)
- 2. Performance as measured by Department and Medical Staff data elements (and thresholds, where possible)
- 3. Number of cases reviewed through PPE process and their dispositions
- 4. Number of concerns addressed pursuant to the Medical Staff Professionalism Policy and the disposition of those matters

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CONTRENTIAL FIER REVIEW DOCUMENT Samph Providence Thinto Report
Sample Preclifencer Illuiry Report Physician No. XXX
Medical Occurrence Reason for Case Description Disposition Disposition Record # Data Reformal Case Description Disposition Disposition
239976 11/15/2019 Specific Isparsocopic procedure reparting patient CSRC Indexentation
236659 1/14/2020 Specifity Steadil lower performion during Pageoscopic herria repair logocopic herria repair logococopic herria repair logococopic herria repair logococopic perceduces CSRC
237540 1/36/2020 Reported Complications during lapacoscopic repair of para-esophageal hermia Referred to CPE CSRC



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Summary Health Report

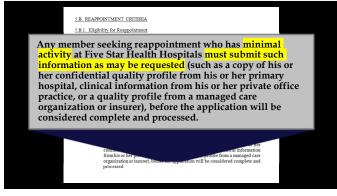
- Generated if health issue currently being monitored or was addressed during past appointment cycle
- Addresses practitioner's ability to perform Medial Staff duties and safely exercise clinical privileges

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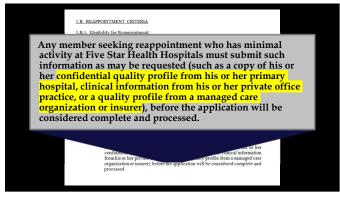
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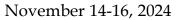
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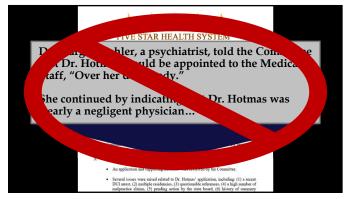




- Time, date, and place of meeting
- Confidentiality statement
- Who was in attendance?
- Quorum present
- "After full discussion, [action taken]"



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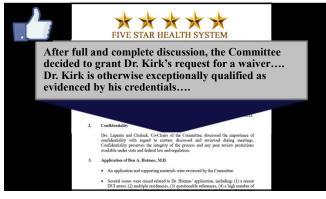
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*EXCEPTIONS (situations in which objective details are helpful)

- 1. Adverse actions
- 2. Waivers
- 3. Conflicts of interest

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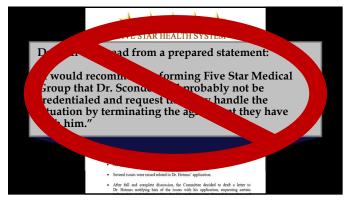






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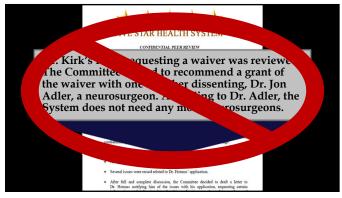
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Take special care:

- Discussions with attorneys
- Protected health information (HIPAA)

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«Confidential and Privileged"



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Potential conflicts of interest:

- Family relationship
- Financial relationship
- History of acrimony
- Close friends
- Direct competitor

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Potential conflicts of interest:

- Personally involved in the care of patient
- Reviewed case at prior level
- Raised the concern
- Subject of the review

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General principles:

- No right to compel disqualification
- Identification process (e.g., self disclosure mandatory)
- Should be fair to the physician, and protect the conflicted individual and the integrity of process

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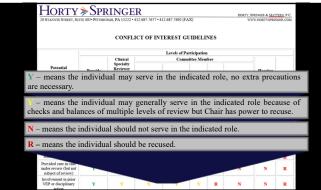
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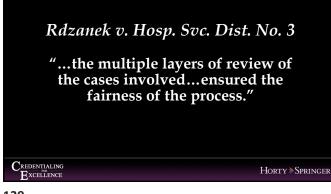
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Guidelines:

- Define potential conflicts
- Define levels of participation
- Define rules

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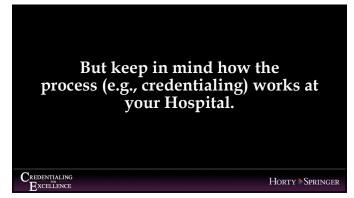
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 Rules for Recusal

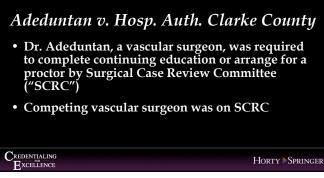
 Step 1:
 Confirm the conflict

 Step 2:
 Participation for unrelated issues and may provide information

 Step 3:
 Excused from meeting

 Step 4:
 Recusal documented in minutes

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Adeduntan v. Hosp. Auth. Clarke County

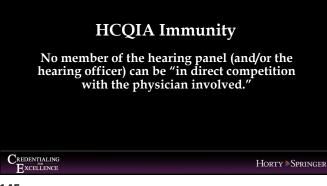
- However, competing vascular surgeon, even though he provided information to the SCRC, recused himself before recommendation was made
- Charges against competing vascular surgeon dismissed

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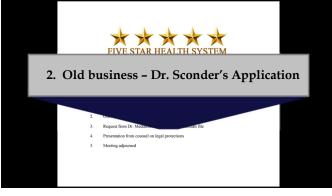




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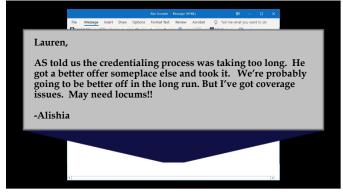
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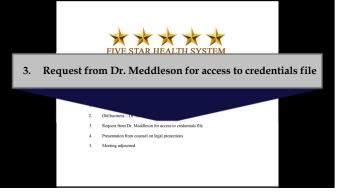
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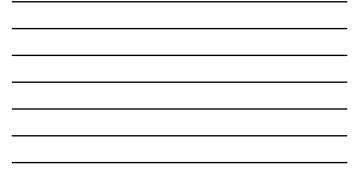


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Chuck,

I've talked to my lawyer and I've checked the bylaws. It's clear you guys are out to get me. When will the harassment stop? It's interfering with my ability to practice. I demand to see my entire file including the recent "complaints" so I can defend myself.

I demand to see. I also demand to see the files of Dr. Down and the set of t

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7.A <u>Routine Documents</u>. The following are routine credentialing, privileging, and PPE/peer review documents ("Routine Documents"):

 applications for appointment, reappointment, clinical privileges, or permission to practice, and requested changes in staff status or clinical privileges, with all attachments;
 information gathered in the course of verifying education, training, experience, and similar information included on applications for appointment, reappointment, permission to practice, clinical privileges, or changes in staff status (however, this does not include information obtained from references or other third parties who provide the information with an expectation of confidentiality, which are considered Sensitive Documents);
 quality profiles, Ongoing Professional Practice Evaluation ("OPPE") reports, or other quality data reports;
 Informational Letters prepared in accordance with the Professional Practice Evaluation Policy;
 routine correspondence between the Hospital and the Practitioner; and

(6) routine affiliation verifications.



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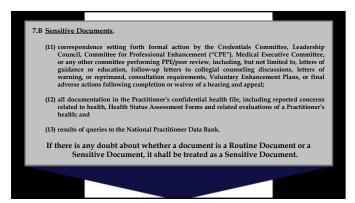
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- 7.B <u>Sensitive Documents</u>. Any document that is not a Routine Document as defined above is a sensitive credentialing, privileging, and PPE/peer review document ("Sensitive Document"). Sensitive Documents include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - reported concerns or incident reports concerning the Practitioner submitted by Hospital employees or other Practitioners;
 - (2) evaluations or reports completed as part of the credentialing and privileging processes by Department Chairs and other internal reviewers;
 - (3) documentation created pursuant to the FPPE Policy to Confirm Practitioner Competence and Professionalism;
 - (4) evaluations or reports completed as part of the PPE/peer review process by internal reviewers, proctors, monitors, or external reviewers;
 - (5) non-routine affiliation verifications, and all peer references prepared by the Hospital;

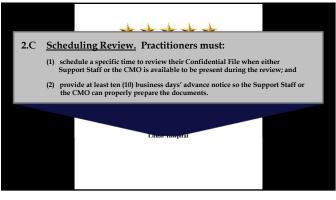
155

7.B Sensitive Documents.

- (6) e-mails and other electronic communication, memos to file, correspondence, notes and other documents that reflect the deliberative process of Medical Staff Leaders and Hospital personnel related to credentialing, privileging, or PFE/peer review. Such documents are sensitive because Medical Staff Leaders and Hospital personnel must be willing to engage in open, candid discussions about sensitive issues and explore all available options to effectively and constructively resolve concerns;
- (7) correspondence between the Practitioner and the Hospital related to the PPE/peer review process:
- (8) reports and portions of minutes of peer review committees pertaining to the Practitioner;
- (9) correspondence from references and other third parties, including, but not limited to, letters of reference, confidential evaluation forms, and other documents prepared by external sources concerning the Practitioner's training, clinical practice, professional competence, conduct, or health;
- 10) notations of telephone conversations concerning the Practitioner's qualifications with references and other third parties, including date of conversation, identification of parties to the conversation, and information received and/or discussed;

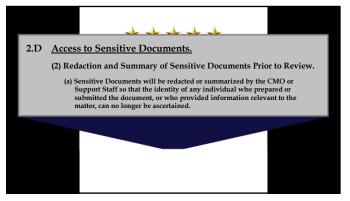


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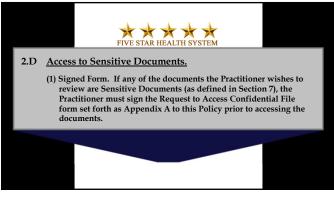


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Request to access confidential file form:

- No smart phones/images of documents
- No altering documents but may provide written response or request information be corrected
- Agree to maintain confidentiality
- Agree not to retaliate

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VIA CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REOUESTED

I also demand to see the files of Dr. Louie Cannon and Dr. Jose Nado. I suspect they have gotten a pass on their bad behavior – could it be because they are men?!

> I demand to see the 'Comp. I also demand to see the files of Dr. Louie Cannon and Dr. Jose Nado. I suspect they have gotten a pass on their bad behavior. Melinda Meddleson, M.D.



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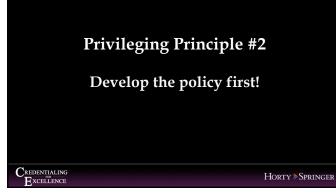
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Privileging Principle #1

Confirm competence through focused professional practice evaluation process when clinical privileges initially granted.

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Privileging Principle #3
There is no single "right" answer to any of your privileging questions.

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Clinical Privileges • Temporary Privileges • Criteria for Clinical Privileges • Criteria for Clinical Privileges • New Procedures • Advanced Practice Clinicians • Privileges that Cross Specialty Lines • Telemedicine Privileges HORTY ≥ SPRINGER 171



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Temporary Privileges

New Applicants

Image: Description of the system of t



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Complete Application Means:

- All information received
- All information verified
- Review complete except MEC and Board

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Clean Application Means:

 No current or previously successful challenges to licensure or registration

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Clean Application Means:

• No involuntary termination of appointment or involuntary limitation, reduction, denial, or loss of clinical privileges at another healthcare facility

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- New applicants
- Important patient care need

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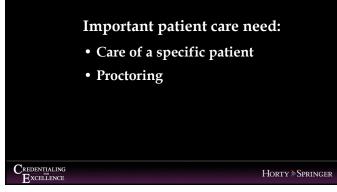
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Important patient care need: ✓ Verification of licensure and DEA ✓ Verification of competence ✓ Relevant training and experience ✓ Verification of malpractice insurance Data Bank/OIG exclusion list



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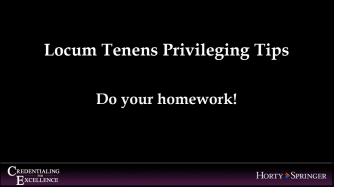
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Temporary Privileges

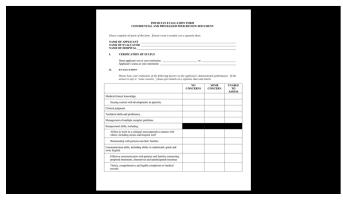
- Important and immediate patient care need
 - Care of a specific patient
 - Proctoring
 - Locum Tenens

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Require:

No current or previously successful challenges to licensure or registration

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Require:

No involuntary termination of appointment or involuntary limitation, reduction, denial, or loss of clinical privileges at another healthcare facility

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Do:

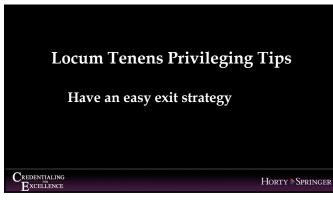
- Criminal background check
- Google search

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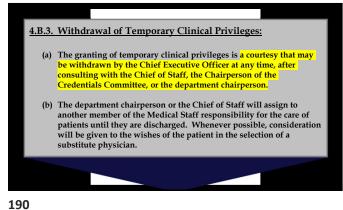


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Have an easy exit strategy

Contract provision
Bylaws Language
Horry Springer

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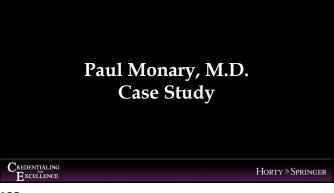
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Locum Tenens Privileging Tips Consider a Locums Staff Category

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Criteria for Clinical Privileges



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The Medical Staff Bylaws must describe the privileging process used that considers "character, *competence*, training, *individual experience*, and judgment"

- CMS Conditions of Participation

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Grants of clinical privileges are based on a review of "training, *experience*, *current competence*, and *ability to perform the requested privilege.*"

- The Joint Commission

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The medical staff bylaws should include criteria for determining the privileges to be granted to individual practitioners. - DNV

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Vascular surgery *residents* are expected to have done a minimum of 80 endovascular therapeutic procedures and 100 endovascular diagnostic procedures

- Society for Vascular Surgery

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> "When there isn't a clear cut standard in the community then the hospital has to decide for themselves."

> > Nahas v. Shore Medical Center (2019)

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Best Practices

- 1. Set threshold eligibility criteria for clinical privileges (both core and specialty) in advance
- 2. Use multi-disciplinary committee to recommend appropriate threshold eligibility criteria for clinical privileges (e.g., Credentials Committee) with input from appropriate specialties
- 3. Criteria based on literature and research

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Threshold Eligibility Criteria

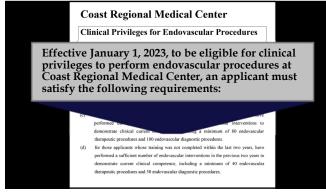
Apply to:

- 1. Initial appointment,
- 2. Reappointment, and
- 3. CLINICAL PRIVILEGES!

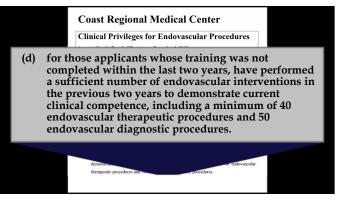
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Volume-Based Credentialing

- Eligibility for privileges based on specified number of clinical activities
- Common for surgical and invasive procedures
- Better outcomes associated with higher volume
- May have alternative means for demonstrating competence (e.g., simulation)

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Justin Bourne, MD Case Study

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Unresolved, or poorly resolved, turf	
battles are likely to end up in court.	
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Risks of Poorly Handled	



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Patient Safety Risks Goldenberg v. Woodard

OB/GYN begins performing colonoscopy after attending weekend CME course. Sued for fraud after perforating a patient's colon. Jury award over \$1.5 million.

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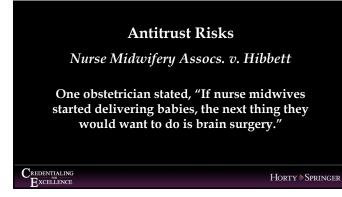
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Antitrust Risks

Nurse Midwifery Assocs. v. Hibbett

Two nurse midwives sued hospitals and obstetricians for violations of the antitrust laws when their request for privileges to deliver babies was denied.

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Antitrust Risks

Nurse Midwifery Assocs. v. Hibbett

Another said that nurse midwives would get privileges "over his dead body."

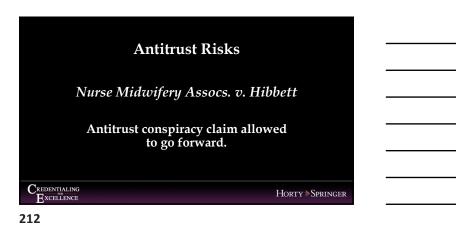
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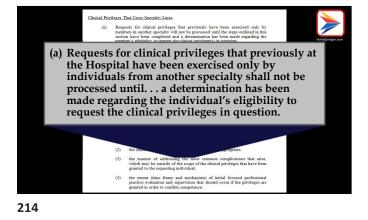
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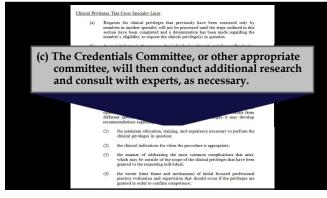


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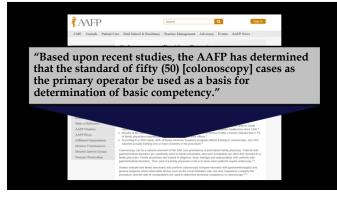
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Chief desired the constraint of the second se

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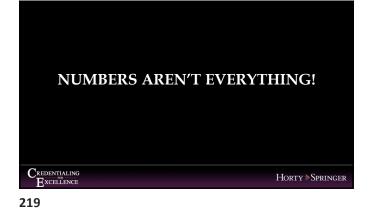




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Also Consider:

- Training (e.g., residency? Fellowship? CME?)
- <u>Experience</u> (e.g., recommendations by specialty societies, requirements of similarly situated hospitals)

And at reappointment:

- Outcome data (e.g., complication rates, patient experience)
- <u>Clinical indications</u> for renewal of clinical privileges

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Privileges for New Procedures

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Basic Responsibilities and Requirements:

As a condition of being granted appointment, reappointment or clinical privileges ... every individual specifically agrees to the following:

 to disclose conflicts of interest regarding relationships with pharmaceutical companies, device manufacturers, other vendors or other persons or entities

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Pickett v. Olympia Medical Center (2nd App Dist. Cal. 2016)

A hospital has a duty of reasonable care to protect patients.

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 Pickett

 Those duties include providing policies and procedures that are reasonably necessary for the treatment of patients.

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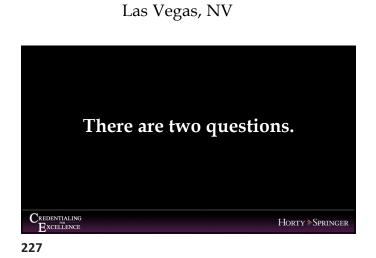


The measure of a hospital's duty is the degree of care, skill, and diligence used by other hospitals in similar circumstances.

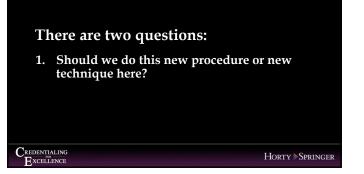
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Factors to consider:

- Clinical indications for new procedure;
- Whether there is empirical evidence of improved patient outcomes or other benefits;
- Whether proficiency is volume-sensitive;

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Factors to consider:

- Whether the procedure is being performed at similar hospitals; and
- Whether the Hospital has the resources to safely and effectively perform the new procedure.

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 There are two questions:

 1. Should we do this new procedure or new technique here?

 2. Is a separate privilege required?

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Factors to consider:

- Is different equipment/technique required?
- Is a special skill set required?

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If a separate privilege, Credentials Committee should:

- Develop threshold criteria
- Define elements of FPPE to confirm competence

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Put the burden on the practitioner seeking to perform the new procedure to provide a report that addresses these issues.

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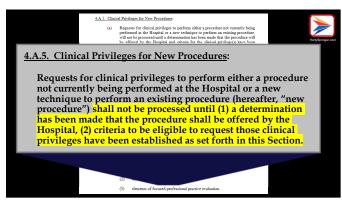
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Best Practice

Decide policy first **THEN** apply policy to the practitioner's request

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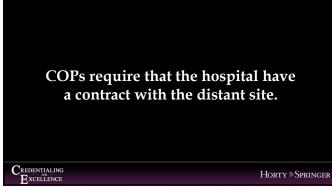


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Agreement with distant site:

- Medicare-participating hospital (or telemedicine entity that furnishes services in compliance with CoPs).
- List of telemedicine provider's privileges at distant site.
- Distant site provider is licensed in state where patient is located.
- Distant site receives performance review of provider's privileges (e.g., review of adverse events and complaints).

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Agreement with distant site:

Also consider language about the exchange of peer review information:

- Should be consistent with, and reference, the state peer review statute.
- Emphasize that credentialing and privileging information is privileged and confidential.
- State that exchange of such information is not a waiver of any applicable privilege.

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The Joint Commission Twist

The distant site must be a Joint Commission-accredited or Medicareparticipating organization.

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Other accreditation entities:

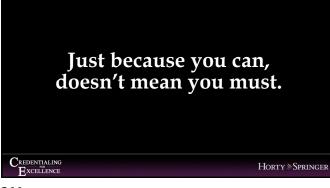
- CIHQ, MS-9 Similar to Medicare CoPs
- DNV-NIAHO, MS.20 Similar to/same as Medicare CoPs

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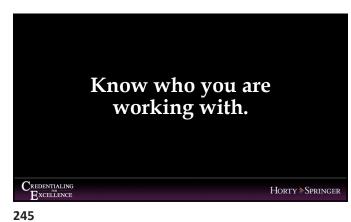
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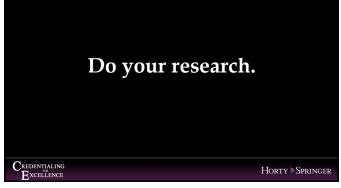


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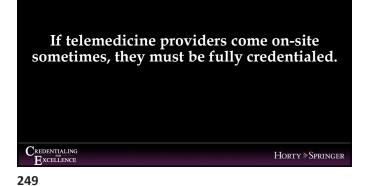


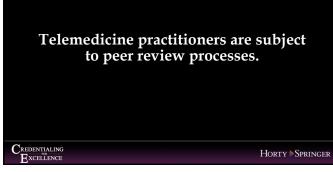


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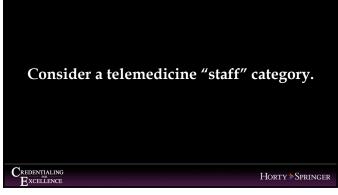


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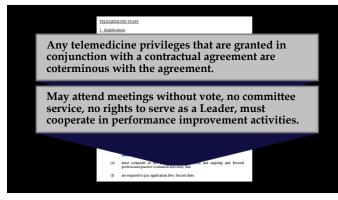
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The Telemedicine Staff is not a category of the Medical Staff, but included in this Article for convenient reference.

Individual appointed to the Telemedicine Staff may be granted privileges in accordance with the Credentials Policy.

(c) must compare the problem in the problem of the pr

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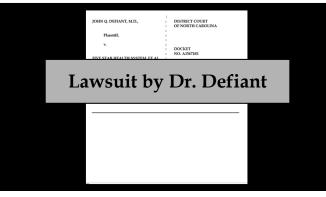
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Q: Why Do Leaders Need Protections? A: Lawsuits by Physicians (such as Dr. Defiant) Subject to Adverse Actions.

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Claims brought by Dr. Defiant:

• Defamation

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- Antitrust violations
- Interference with business relationships
- Breach of contract
- Violation of the ADEA

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Other common claims: • Whistleblower • Deprivation of fair process CREDENTIALING EXCELLENCE HORTY > SPRINGER

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Las Vegas, NV What Legal Protections Do We Have?

Federal Protection Health Care Quality Improvement Act (HCQIA)

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Federal Protection: HCQIA

- Federal law
- Provides immunity from damages
- Protects:
 - professional review bodies,
 - members of professional review bodies, and
 - those providing information

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Federal Protection: HCC	QIA
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Those providing information to professional review bodies are immune unless:

- Information was false; and
- Knew it was false

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Federal Protection: HCQIA

Professional review bodies immune if action taken:

- In the reasonable belief it is furtherance of quality care
- After reasonable investigation
- After notice of action and hearing*
- In the reasonable belief it is justified by the facts known

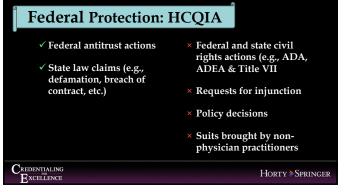
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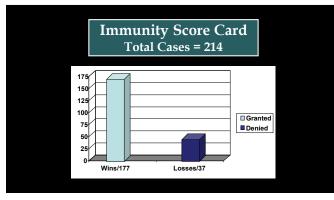
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Federal Protection: HCQIA

Courts look favorably on decisions:

- 1) In which you are fair to the physician, and
- 2) That are taken to protect patients.

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Kolb v. Northside Hospital

- Plastic surgeon summarily suspended
- Reports of surgeon carrying gun in hospital to ward off assassination attempts
- Numerous mental health concerns (e.g., reincarnation of Lizzie Borden)

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Kolb v. Northside Hospital

- Surgeon requested a hearing instead of submitting to psychiatric exam
- Suspension upheld
- Surgeon sued, asserting state law claims

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Kolb v. Northside Hospital

Court:

- HCQIA immunity applies
- Main concern behind suspension was the gun and safety of patients and staff
- Reasonable investigation Chair of MEC spoke with surgeon before suspension and witness statements collected after the suspension

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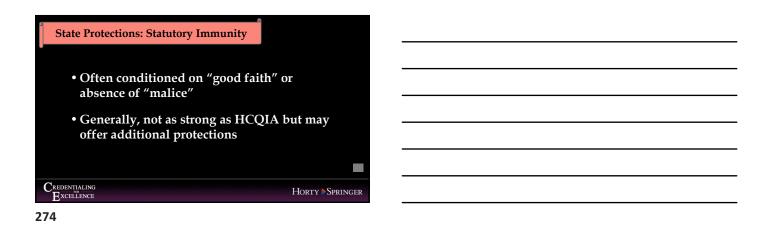
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 State Protections

 • Statutory Immunity

 • Peer Review Privilege

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What About Dr. Defiant's Discovery Requests?

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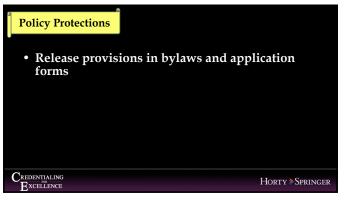
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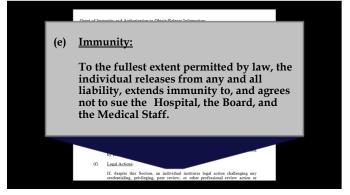
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Policy Protections

- Release provisions in bylaws and application forms
- Indemnification policy
- Policy on D&O insurance

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Las Vegas, NV Welcome to Credentialing for Excellence November 14-16, 2024 Las Vegas, NV Lauren Massucci & Hala Mouzaffar HORTY > SPRINGER 281

I wish I had ...YOUR BYLAWS

Scenario 1: Dr. Laubraker

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Scenario 1: Dr. Larry Laubraker

- "Youthful indiscretions"
- DUI when he was 19
- Receiving stolen property when he was 21
- No other run-ins with the law
- Before the MEC acted, we learn that 6 months ago, Dr. Laubraker was arrested for DUI

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Look at your Bylaws. What are you going to do?

- Recommend denial
- Send application back to Credentials Committee
- Get additional information and then decide whether or not to process application because of misrepresentation
- Appoint with conditions
- Phone a friend

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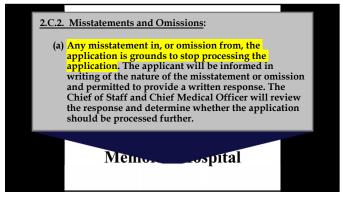
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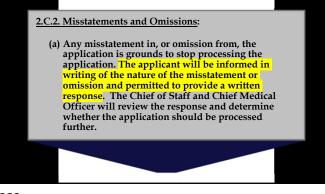
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<u>7.1.1. Grounds for Hearing</u> Any one or more of the following actions or recommended actions will constitute grounds for hearing. (a) Denial of initial membership (b) Denial of reappointment (c) Denial of requested clinical privileges

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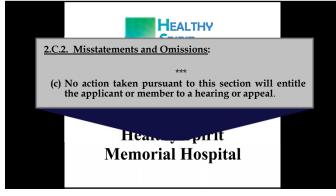
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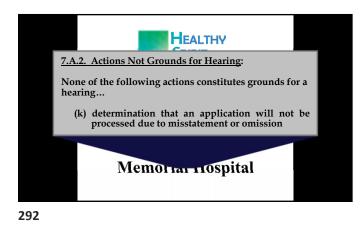
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2.C.2. Misstatements and Omissions:

(a) Any misstatement in, or omission from, the application is grounds to stop processing the application. The applicant will be informed in writing of the nature of the misstatement or omission and permitted to provide a written response. The Chief of Staff and Chief Medical Officer will review the response and determine whether the application should be processed further.

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Scenario 2: Dr. Grubbs

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Scenario 2: Dr. Gregory Grubbs Eight months ago, the State Board entered into a Consent Order in which it was determined that Dr. Grubbs violated the Medical Practice Act by: • committing malpractice in two cases, and • failing to maintain timely, legible, accurate medical records.

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Scenario 2: Dr. Gregory Grubbs

According to Consent Order, Dr. Grubbs' license was suspended for six months (stayed) and the following conditions were imposed:

• Probation – two years

• 10 CME hours re: medical records

• 20 CME hours re: cervical spine surgery

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Look at your Bylaws. What are you going to do?

- Deem him ineligible for continued appointment
- Take disciplinary action because he failed to notify you of the licensure action
- Commence an investigation
- Impose the same conditions on his privileges
- Deem his appointment and privileges to be automatically relinquished

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2.3.3 Burden on the Applicant

- (a) The burden is on the applicant to provide the necessary information and documentation to support his or her request for clinical privileges, and evidence of current competency. This is applicable at the time of initial appointment, reappointment, return from leave of absence, requests for new clinical privileges, employment or at any time during the practitioner's affiliation with the Hospital.
 (b) The applicant must inform the Medical Staff Office if there is need to correct or clarify any information submitted. This notice
- (e) receipt or clarify any information submitted. This notice must be in writing and/or electronic format and submitted prior to the file being presented to the Credentials Committee.

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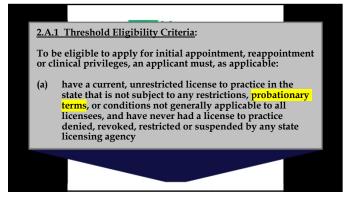
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5.5.2 License

Probation Whenever a member is placed on probation by the applicable licensing authority, his or her applicable membership status, prerogatives, privileges and responsibilities, if any, will automatically become subject to the terms of the probation effective upon, and for at least the term of, the probation.

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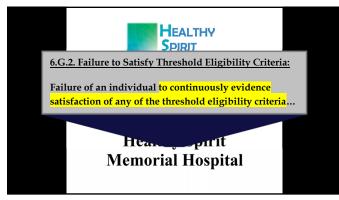
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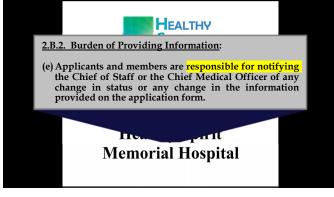
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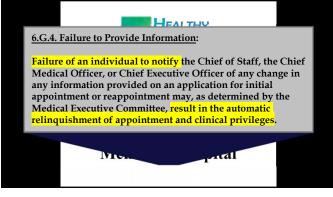
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Scenario 3: Dr. Vintage

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Scenario 3: Dr. Vivian Vintage

- Recently suffered a stroke
- She's been out of practice for four months
- When CMO called, Dr. Vintage said, "I'm fine," and "I'm looking forward to returning to practice."
- CMO is concerned it'll be a long recovery
- Two weeks later, you see Dr. Vintage's name on the OR schedule

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Look at your Bylaws. What are you going to do?

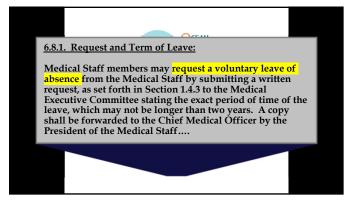
- Place her on a LOA and tell her she needs to request reinstatement
- Require her to get an evaluation
- Refer to Practitioner Health Policy
- Do nothing and hope for the best!
- A, B and C

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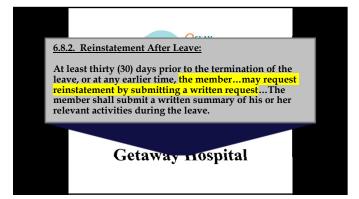
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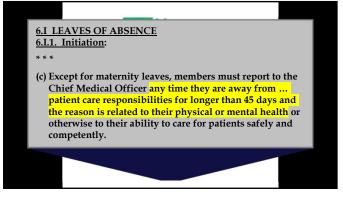
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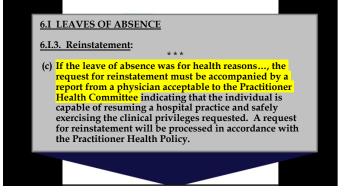
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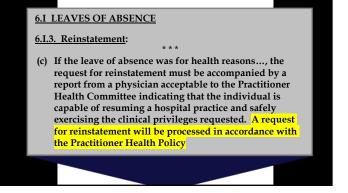
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6.1 LEAVES OF ABSENCE 6.1.1. Initiation: *** (•) Upon becoming aware of such circumstances (whether by report of the Practitioner or otherwise), the Chief Medical Officer, in consultation with the Chief of Staff, may trigger an automatic medical leave of absence at any point after becoming aware of the member's absence from patient care.

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Scenario 4: Dr. Hurricane

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Scenario 4: Dr. Hannah Hurricane

- Based on a long history of disruptive behavior, Dr. Hurricane's appointment was terminated
- She sued the Hospital and every member of the MEC
- Two years later, while the litigation is pending, Dr. Hurricane calls the Medical Staff Office and announces: "I'm baaaaaaack!"
- She also demands an application

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Look at your Bylaws. What are you going to do?

- Give her an application and process it. People change!
- Tell her she's ineligible no application
- Write her a letter asking her to explain how she's changed and why things would be different this time around
- Give her an application, but make sure everyone knows the plan is to deny it

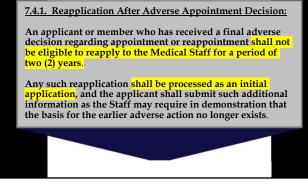
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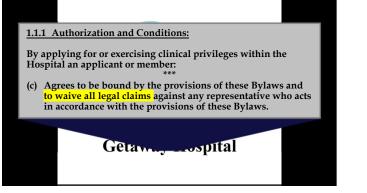
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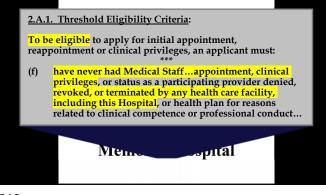
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Bylaws best practices:

- Threshold eligibility criteria
- Misstatements and omissions
- Automatic relinquishments
- Burden/Incomplete Application
- Leaves of absence
- Right to a hearing

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Credentialing and Privileging Advanced Practice Professionals

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Hospital Pediatrics (November 2020) The Role of the Advanced Practice Provider and the Evolving Health Care Landscape

"The number of APPs per 100 physicians increased from 15.3 in 2001 to 28.2 in 2016. This trend is expected to continue, with a projection of 53.9 APPs per 100 physicians by 2030."



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Advanced Practice Professionals and the Medical Staff

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State Operations Manual Appendix A - Survey Protocol, Demonstration Conductions Demonstrate 42 C.F.R. § 482.12(a)(1) The governing body must: determine, in accordance with State law, which categories of practitioners are eligible candidates for appointment to the medical staff;

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	State Operations Manual Appendix A - Survey Protocol.	
The governi law, to grant physician pr medical staf types of prac	ian practitioners ng body has the authority, in accordance wi t medical staff privileges and membership tr ractitioners. The regulation allows hospitals fs to take advantage of the expertise and ski ctitioners who practice at the hospital when ncerning medical staff privileges and memb	o non- and their lls of all making
	Prechatric Hospitan. Prechatric Tati Survey Modul Rehabilitation Hospital Survey Module Inopital Swing Red Survey Module Regulations and Interpretive Guidelines (482.1 Baits and Sope	

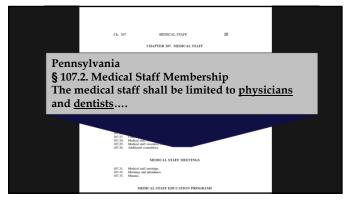
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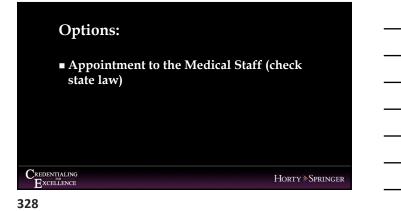
...but, check state law and regulations.

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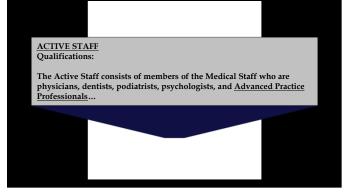
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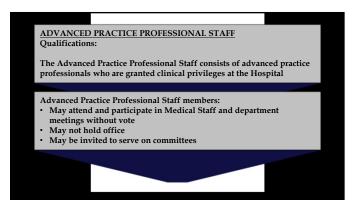
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Options:

- Appointment to the Medical Staff (check state law)
- Separate staff category with limited rights and responsibilities

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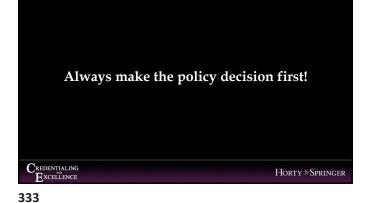
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Privileging Issues $\overset{\text{redentialing}}{E^{\text{redentialing}}}$ Horty *≫*Springer 332

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The question is whether any PA or NP should be granted privileges to perform pacemaker and defibrillator implantations under a physician's supervision. Credentialing Excellence

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What Does CMS Say?

APPs who provide a "medical level of care" or conduct surgical procedures in the Hospital must be credentialed and *privileged* through the Medical Staff process.

> Director, CMS Survey and Certification Group Memorandum, November 12, 2004

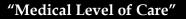
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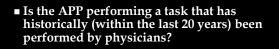
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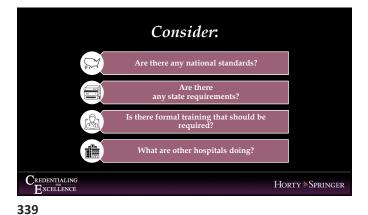


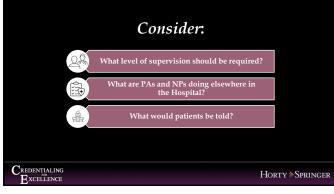
• Could the task that the APP is performing "kill or cause significant harm" to the patient?

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Las Vegas, NV State licensing standards create a minimum bar. Morty≥Springer 341

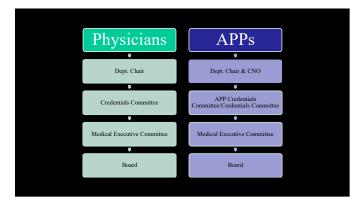
Hospitals can set higher standards.

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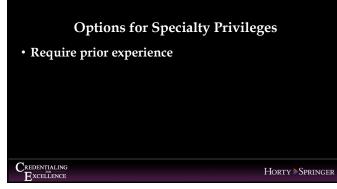
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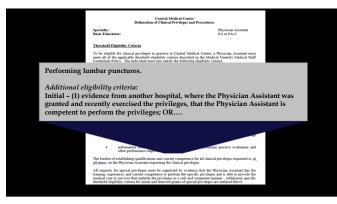
If DeeDee Doppler was a physician, she would have to demonstrate education, training, experience, and current competence before her request for privileges would be granted.

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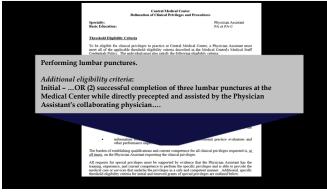


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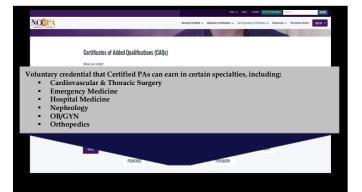
Options for Specialty Privileges

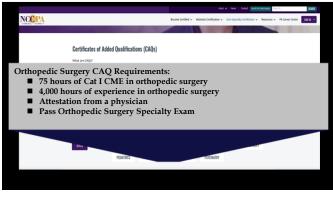
- Require prior experience
- "On-the-job" training with supervising physician
- Require CAQ or postgraduate training

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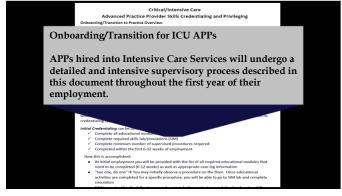
Options for Specialty Privileges

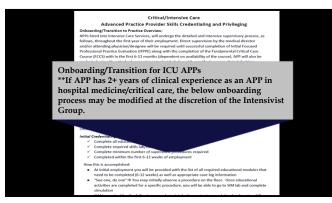
- Require prior experience
- "On-the-job" training with supervising physician
- Require CAQ or postgraduate training
- Develop internal training program and guidelines for supervising physicians to promote consistency

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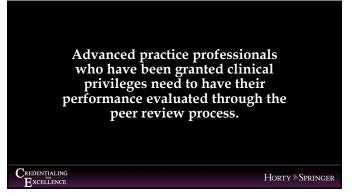




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Conditions of Participation

Interpretive Guidelines 42 C.F.R. §482.51(a)(4)

The hospital must specify the surgical privileges for each practitioner that performs surgical tasks. This would include practitioners such as RN first assistants, nurse practitioners, surgical physician assistants and surgical technicians.

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DNV SS.3 PRACTITIONER PRIVILEGES

SR.1 The organization shall have delineated surgical privileges established by the* organization's department of surgery and medical staff and approved by the governing body for each practitioner that performs surgical tasks (see MS.6). This includes practitioners such as MD/DO, dentists, oral surgeons, podiatrists, RN first assistants, nurse practitioners, surgical physician assistants, surgical technicians, etc.

*Effective March 2024

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Surgical Tasks

- Opening and closing
- Dissecting tissue
- Removing tissue
- Administering anesthesia
- Implanting devices
- Placing invasive lines

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Dependent Practitioners
Under the supervision (and direction) of, or in collaboration with a physician
Do not provide a medical level of care or perform surgical tasks

Granted a scope of practice

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Dependent Practitioners

- Radiology Assistants
- Private Scrub Technicians
- Perfusionists
- Medical Research Assistants
- Scribes

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Credentialing Dependent Practitioners

Options:

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- Human Resources
- Streamlined Medical Staff process
- Hybrid HR/Medical Staff
- Full Medical Staff Process

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No more than 2%-4% of health care professionals at any level regularly engage in disruptive behavior.

Disruptive and Unprofessional Behavior, Patient Safety Network, September 7, 2019

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In a survey of 840 physicians and physician leaders more than 70% reported that disruptive physician behavior occurs at least once a month, with over 10% reporting that it occurs daily.

Disruptive Physician Behavior, QuantiaMD with the American College of Physician Executives, May 2011

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No Doubt That "Disruptive Co Can Adversely Affect Patient	onduct″ Care
 Accrediting Bodies 	
• Data	
The Courts	
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Joint Commission L.D.03.01.01

"Leaders create and maintain a culture of safety and quality throughout the hospital."

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LD.03.01.01 EOP 4 Leaders develop a code of conduct that defines acceptable behavior and behaviors that undermine a culture of safety. EOP 5 Leaders create and implement a process for managing behaviors that undermine a culture of safety. Credentialing Excellence Horty **≫**Springer

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DNV MS.14:

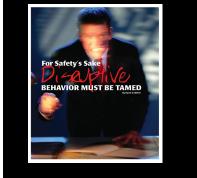
"... unprofessional demeanor and conduct and/or behavior is likely to be detrimental to patient safety or the delivery of quality care or is disruptive to organization operations."

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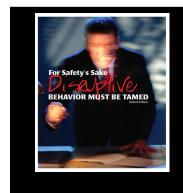
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Institute for Safe Medication Practices surveyed **2,000** health care workers.

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50% said they felt pressured into dispensing or giving a drug when they harbored serious doubts about its safety.

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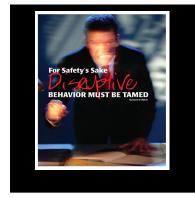


Two out of five admitted they held their tongues rather than risk setting off a known intimidator.

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7% reported they'd been involved in a medication error during the past year as a direct result. November 14-16, 2024

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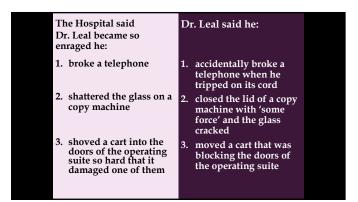


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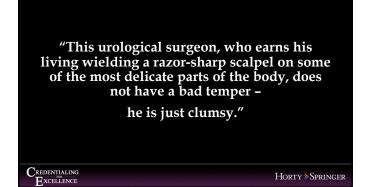




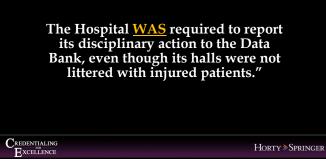
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The Hospital said Dr. Leal became so enraged he:	Dr. Leal said:
 threw jelly beans down the hallway in the surgical suite 	 he ate jelly beans, some of which fell on the floor when he tried to throw away flavors he did not like
5. flung a medical chart to the ground	5. when he was handed a chart, some of the loose papers fell to the floor

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"The fact that no patients were hit by pieces of the broken telephone, or by the shattered copy machine glass, or by the careening metal cart, or by the flying jelly beans, or by the airborne medical chart, is not dispositive.

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> "Disruptive and abusive behavior by a physician, even if not resulting in actual or immediate harm to a patient poses a serious threat to patient health or welfare. A physician must work collaboratively with other members of a medical staff in order to provide quality care to patients."

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"A hospital is one place where no one can do his job alone, where better teamwork means better care, and where disruptive behavior threatens lives."

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Addressing Unprofessional Conduct In The Credentialing Process

- Initial Appointment
- Reappointment

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Conditional Appointment/Reappointment

- Conditions designed to address concerns and outline expectations for behavior
- Can be short-term
- Monitor for compliance with conditions
- Consequences for violation

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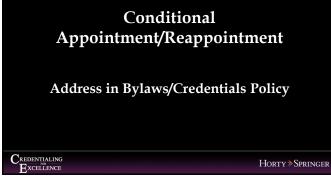
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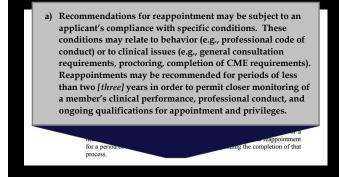
Conditional Appointment/Reappointment Consequences for Violation

- Progressive discipline
- Referral to MEC for formal action

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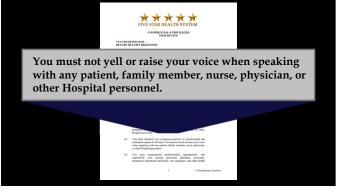
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You must use the medical record only to document the clinical aspects pertaining to patient care. You must not make entries in the medical record that relate to the conduct of others, which impugn the quality of care at the Hospital, or which demean, disparage, embarrass or intimidate any patient, nurse, physician, or other Hospital personnel.



398



399

FIVE STAR HEALTH SYSTEM

You must refrain from publicly criticizing or making derogatory comments regarding the quality of care provided by the Medical Center, any physicians on the Medical Staff, nurses, or any other Medical Center personnel. Any concerns that you have in this regard must be addressed as specified below.





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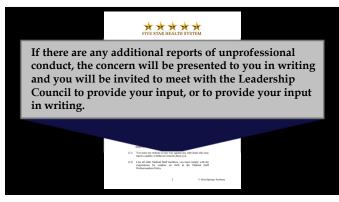
If you have any concerns with the manner in which one of your patients is being treated, or with the behavior of any nurse, other health care professional, or physician, you are directed to address that matter privately and professionally through a confidential report to the Chief Medical Officer or the Chair of the Department of Medicine.



401



402





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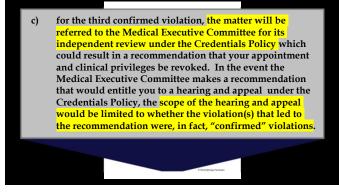
If the Leadership Council (in its complete discretion) confirms violation of the behavioral conditions after reviewing the circumstances and does not feel the issue can be addressed collegially, the following progressive actions will occur (with the understanding that, depending on the severity and circumstances surrounding any future formal violation, the Leadership Council has the discretion to modify this approach, including skipping any of these anticipated steps and proceeding to more significant action as authorized by the Credentials Policy or other applicable policy to address the concerns):



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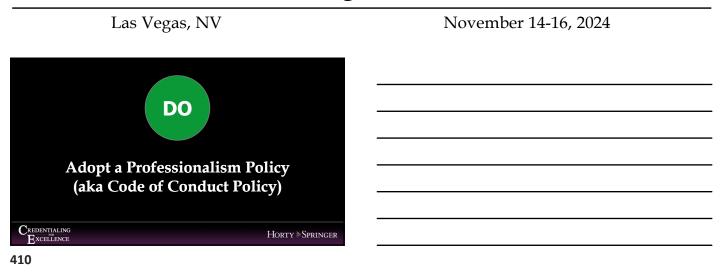


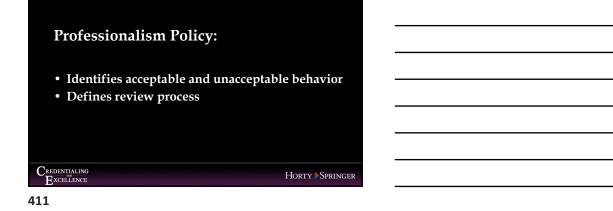
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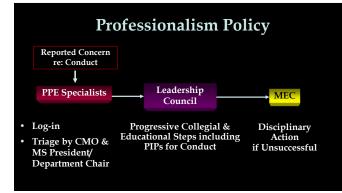




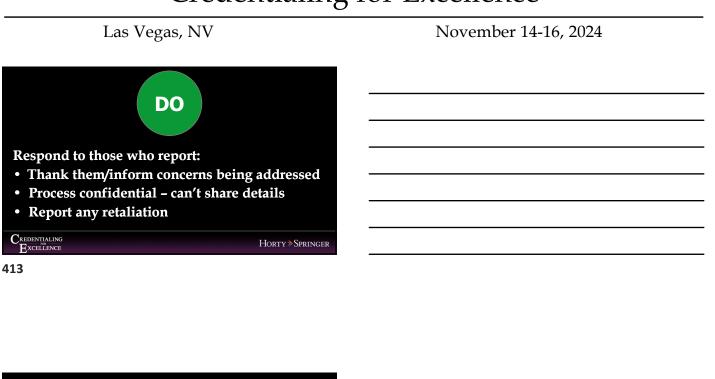
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DO

• Inform Practitioner of concerns early on and again after further review has been

• Remind about confidentiality and no

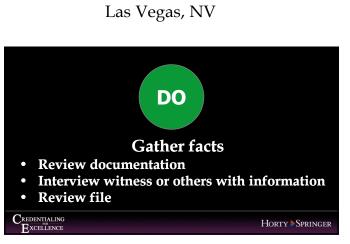
conducted; and

retaliation

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Progressive steps include:

- Informal discussions/mentoring
- Educational letter
- Collegial counseling
- Performance Improvement Plan for Conduct
- Refer to MEC

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Performance Improvement Plan for Conduct

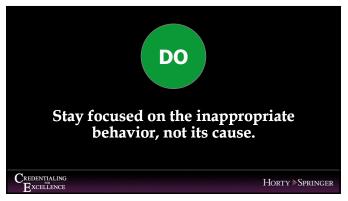
Elements to consider:

- Personal "Code of Conduct" (outlines expectations for conduct going forward and consequences for violation)
- Behavioral Modification Course
- Meeting with Designated Leaders
- Periodic Meetings with Medical Staff Leaders/Mentors
- Review of Literature Regarding Impact of Disruptive Behavior

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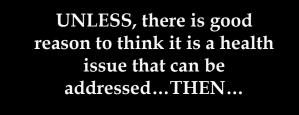
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DON'T Diagnose. Credentialing Excellence Horty > Springer

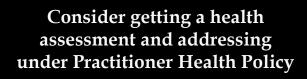
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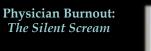
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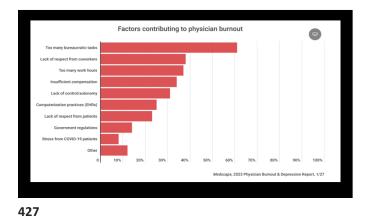
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53% of providers surveyed report being burned out.









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Physician Burnout

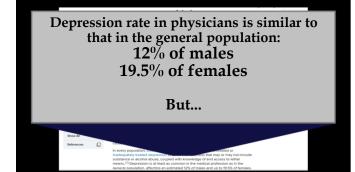


"I personally find a lot of wellness in running and doing yoga, but that doesn't address the root cause of sitting in front of a computer going mad trying to click all the boxes."

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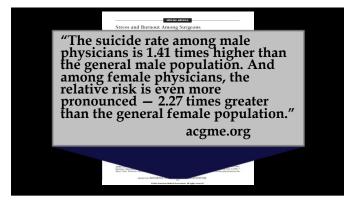
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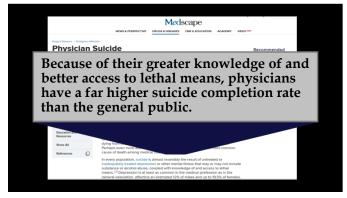
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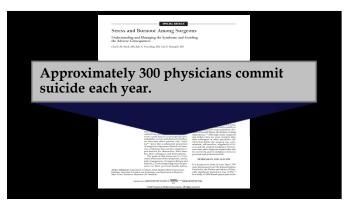
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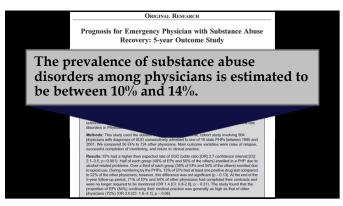
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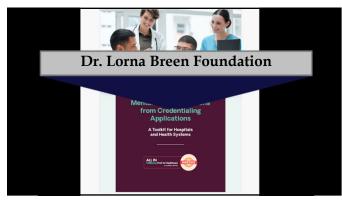
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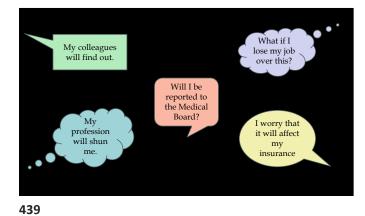
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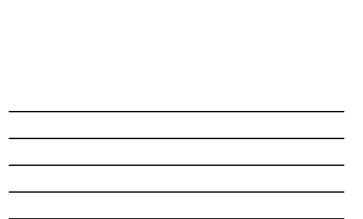


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What has changed?

- State licensure bodies are reassessing their applications
- The Joint Commission had revised its standards
- Hospitals are reassessing the questions they ask of applicants

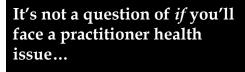
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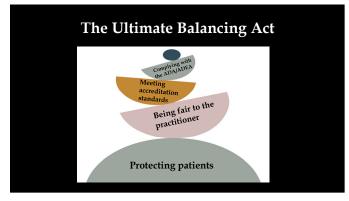
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it's a question of *when*.

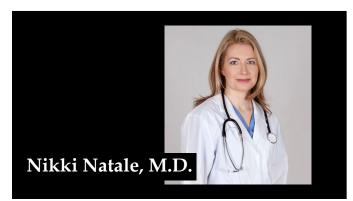
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Credentialing Concerns?

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Credentialing Concerns?

- Signed employment contract before credentialing started
- 4-month LOA
- Lukewarm reference
- DUI
- Misstatement on application

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Health Concerns?

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Health Concerns?

- 4-month LOA
- Lukewarm reference
- DUI
- Misstatement on application

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Do the health concerns create legal concerns?

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Americans with Disabilities Act



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ADA protects qualified individuals who:

- Have physical or mental impairment
- Have record of impairment
- Are perceived as having an impairment

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ADA prohibits <u>pre-offer</u> "medical examinations and inquiries."

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Medical Examinations and Inquiries

- Physical examinations
- TB tests
- Other medical examinations or inquiries that are likely to elicit information about a disability
- 454

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Post-Offer of Employment

After a conditional offer is made, the ADA allows disability-related inquiries and medical examinations so long as they apply to all applicants in the same job category.

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The Joint Commission

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Element of Performance 6

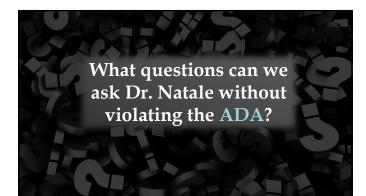
An applicant submits a statement that no health problems exist that could affect his or her ability to perform the privileges requested.*

*Documentation regarding an applicant's health status and his or her ability to practice *should be confirmed*.

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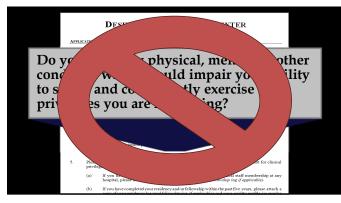
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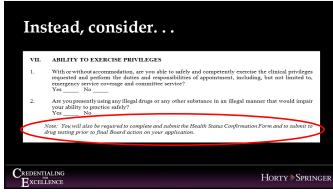


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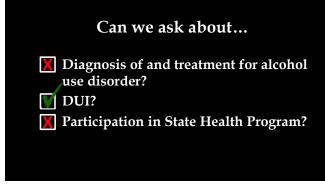
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Can we ask about...

- Four-month LOA during training?
- Other interruptions in training?
- Hospitalizations?
- Lukewarm peer reference?
- Whether she treated patients while under the influence?

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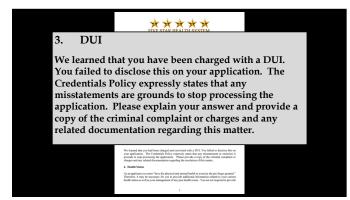


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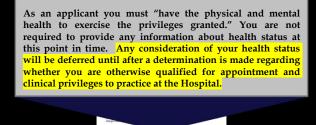
2. Peer Evaluations raised about your practice. These are a very important part of the credentialing process because they assist us in evaluating core competencies identified by the ACGME. Please explain why you think concerns would be raised about you in these areas.

464



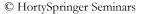
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4. Health Status



ave the physical and mental bealth to exercise the privileges granted.' ary for you to provide additional information related to your curren

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- - No qualified reference
 - No misrepresentation
 - But disclosure that LOA was to address substance use



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up on your disclosure regarding your alcoholrelated LOA to assess whether you are able to safely and competently practice.

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After determining that the applicant is <u>otherwise qualified</u>, the Credentials Committee could also require a fitness for practice evaluation.

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Conditional appointment is an option:

- Appropriate coverage
- Ongoing monitoring
- Sporadic alcohol or drug screens
- Compliance with Physicians Health Program
- Periodic reports of health status
- Attendance at AA/NA meetings

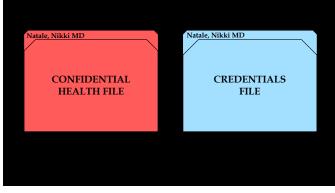


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Documenting Practitioner Health

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Documentation:

- "Confidential Health File" (separate from Credentials File)
- At reappointment:
 - -Medical Staff Office contacts Leadership Council
 - Leadership Council prepares confidential summary health report for the Credentials Committee
 - Leadership Council report includes recommendation regarding ability to safely exercise clinical privileges

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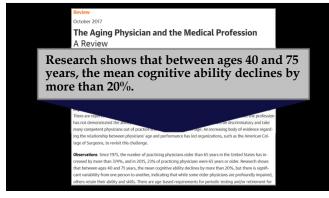
Age-Related Concerns

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The Aging Physician and the Medical Profession
 Since 1975, the number of practicing physicians older than 65 years has increased by more than 374%.
 In 2015, 23% of practicing physicians were 65 years or older.

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"For surgeons older than 60 years...significant differences in mortality rates were largely restricted to those with low procedure volumes... Among high-volume surgeons, however, there were no significant differences in mortality rates...."

> - Annals of Surgery, 2006; 244(3):353-622

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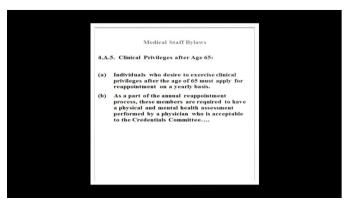
Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA)

- Applies to "employees" (though some courts are interpreting broadly) over age of 40
- Prohibits employment action based on age
- Applies to mandatory retirement, mandatory testing, etc.

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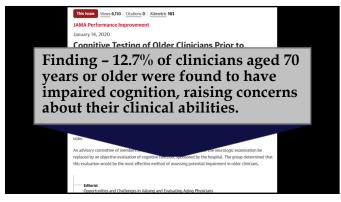
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REJM Catalyst Innovations in Care Delivery

Because of concerns that self-reporting and peer reporting of observed decline in performance would not sufficiently protect patient safety, Hartford Healthcare developed a proactive approach to screen for signs of cognitive decline.

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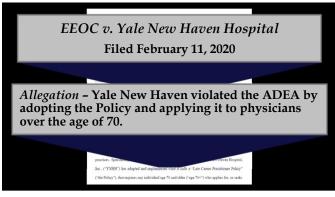
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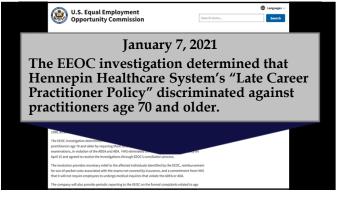


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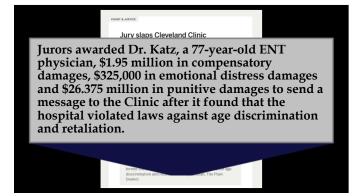


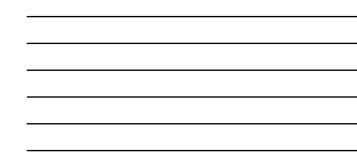
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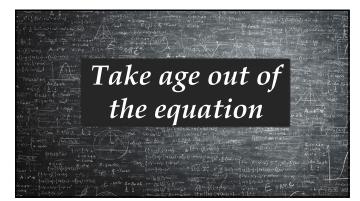


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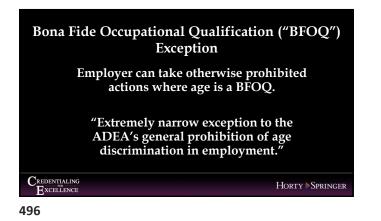
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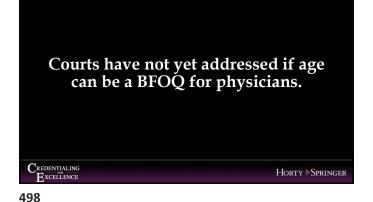


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System Credentialing

Moving Toward Coordination and Consistency



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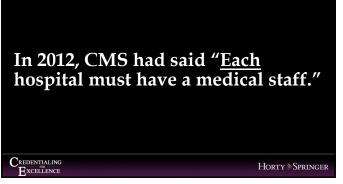
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1990s-early 2000s

Many hospital systems tried to coordinate medical staff functions, including credentialing.

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In 2014, CMS revisited the issue and adopted new Conditions of Participation, which allowed for greater flexibility, including unification.

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Methods for Achieving Coordination and Consistency:

- System Application Form
- System CVO
- System Credentials Policy
- System Credentials Committee
- Information Sharing Policy
- Good Bylaws/Credentials Policy Language

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System CVO

- Primary source verification and collection information from references and third parties only done once.
- Each System Entity receives the same information from primary sources, references and third parties.

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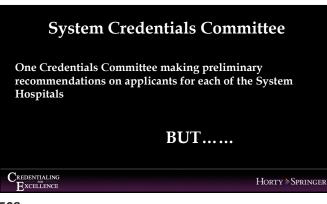
System Credentials Policy

- One Credentials Policy for each System Hospital that is adopted by each Medical Staff and amended by agreement of each Medical Executive Committee.
- Each System Hospital has the same standards, criteria and processes in place when evaluating applicants and members qualifications for initial and ongoing membership and clinical privileges.

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Each Medical Staff within System <u>must</u> have its own separate Medical Executive Committee

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A "problem" physician applies to Hospital A. Significant red flags are spotted and he is sent a letter asking for more information. After several more letters, the physician withdraws his application and goes away...

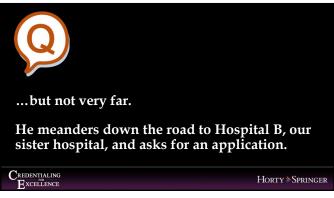
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Oops, I forgot to mention that this physician had also applied at Hospital C and was granted appointment and privileges shortly after he withdrew his application at Hospital A?

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System Information Sharing Policy

- Outlines a process for affiliated entities to share information about practitioners in a legally safe and protected manner.
- Defines what information should be "pushed out" to affiliated entities.
- Defines how information should be shared when requested by affiliated entities.

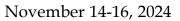
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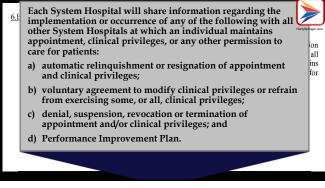


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6.H. ACTIONS OCCURRING AT OTHER HOSPITALS AND FACILITIES WITHIN THE SYSTEM

Upon receipt of notice that any of these actions have occurred at, or been implemented by, any hospital within the System, that action will automatically and immediately take effect at the System Hospital receiving the notice.

> (2) Upon receipt of notice that any or meactions set forth above have occurred at, or been implemented by, any hospital or facility within the System, that action will automatically and immediately take effect at the Medical Center.

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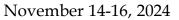
The MEC may recommend to the Board waiving the automatic effectiveness of any action at the receiving System Hospital. Waivers are within the discretion of the Board and are final. They will be granted only as follows:

- a) Based on a finding that the granting of a waiver will not affect patient safety, quality of care or Hospital operations; and
- b) After a full review of the specific circumstances and documents from the System Hospital where the action occurred. The burden is on the affected Practitioner to provide evidence showing that a waiver is appropriate.

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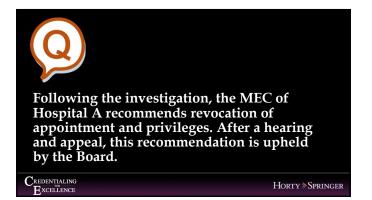


The physician practices primarily at Hospital A, but also has privileges at Hospitals B and C. The MEC at Hospital A commences an investigation.

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Threshold Eligibility Criteria:

To be eligible for appointment or reappointment and/or clinical privileges, an applicant must:

(f) have never had appointment or privileges denied, suspended (for more than 30 days) revoked, or terminated by any health care facility for reasons related to clinical competence or professional conduct

(f) have never had appointment of the end of the en

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6.G.2. Failure t	o Satisfy Threshold Eligibility Criteria:
Failure to S	Satisfy Threshold Eligibility Criteria:
satisfaction	n individual to continuously evidence of the threshold eligibility criteria will result ic relinquishment.

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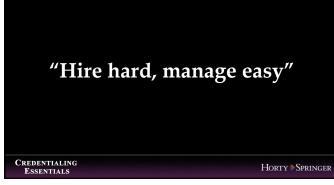


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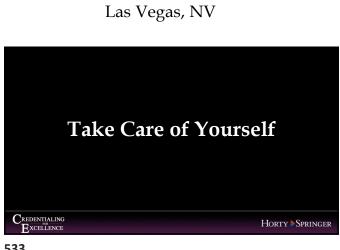


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