

Manual	Medical Staff	<i>Effective Date</i>	1/2008
Policy #	MS 128	<i>Date Reviewed</i>	8/31/2016
<i>Responsible Person</i>	Director, Medical Staff Services	<i>Next Scheduled Review</i>	8/31/2021

**PURPOSE**

To define the process for validating privileging competence of a practitioner by satisfying the Focused Professional Practice Evaluation – Proctoring requirements of the Medical Staff of the Santa Monica UCLA Medical Center & Orthopaedic Hospital. This focuses evaluation on a specific aspect of a practitioner’s performance in a time-limited period.

**POLICY**

The proctoring requirements described in this policy represent the minimum requirement for validation of clinical competence and successful completion of a period of evaluation. Proctoring may include retrospective review of medical care or direct observation of procedures performed. Advanced proctoring requirements will involve direct observation of procedures unless otherwise recommended by the Department Chair. A proctor or Department Chair may recommend to the Credentials Committee additional proctoring requirements if questions arise regarding a practitioner’s professional practice during the course of the ongoing professional practice evaluation. Relevant information resulting from the focused evaluation process is integrated into the ongoing performance evaluation of the practitioner.

A Focused Professional Practice Evaluation - Proctoring is required for:

1. All initial staff appointments;
2. Requests for additional privileges from established medical staff members when advanced proctoring requirements have been established relative to the privileges requested;
3. Requests for privileges using new technology from established medical staff members when advanced proctoring requirements have been established relative to the privileges requested.

Proctoring may be required at the discretion of the Department Chair or Medical Staff Executive Committee:

1. If questions arise regarding a practitioner’s professional practice during the course of the ongoing professional practice evaluation
2. Whenever it is determined that additional information or a period of evaluation is needed to assess or confirm a practitioner’s competence in the hospital setting

## **Proctoring Requirements**

1. It is the responsibility of the Chair to establish proctoring requirements for the members of the department. Minimum proctoring requirements are delineated in Table 1 of this policy.
2. Proctoring requirements include direct observation or retrospective review of cases performed.
3. Advanced proctoring requirements include proctoring for specific procedures that have been identified by each Department. Advanced proctoring requires only proctoring of the specific procedure which has been identified as having an advanced proctoring requirement.
4. Any additional proctoring requirements for a cause will be established and communicated to the practitioner by the Department or Credentials Committee.
  - a) Professional practice evaluation data is collected and assessed on an ongoing basis to determine the practitioner's professional performance in the hospital setting. A Focused Professional Practice Evaluation may be triggered in response to concerns regarding the provision of safe and quality patient care either by single incident or evidence of a clinical practice trend.
  - b) Triggers may include challenges to any licensure or registration; voluntary and involuntary relinquishment of any license or registration; voluntary and involuntary termination of medical staff membership; voluntary and involuntary limitation, reduction, or loss of clinical privileges; any evidence of an unusual pattern or an excessive number of professional liability actions resulting in a final judgment against the practitioner; documentation as to the health status of the practitioner; relevant practitioner-specific data; morbidity or mortality data.
  - c) The period of performance monitoring is based on the Department Chair's evaluation of a practitioner's current clinical competence, practice behavior, and ability to perform the privilege in question. The type of monitoring and measures employed to resolve performance issues are determined by the Department Chair and consistently implemented.

## **Assignment of Proctors**

Proctors are assigned by the Department Chair, or designee, who will assure that assignments are made in a timely manner.

1. All members of the Medical Staff who have themselves completed proctoring and hold unrestricted privileges to perform the procedures and/or manage the clinical cases to be proctored, regardless of Medical Staff membership category, may serve as proctors. Failure to serve as a proctor when assigned to do so may result in Medical Staff disciplinary action.
2. Proctoring may be performed by Medical Staff members who hold related privileges sufficiently similar to the privileges being proctored to allow them to make prudent and informed judgments regarding competence.

3. If no member of the Medical Staff possessing the requisite expertise is available to serve as a proctor, arrangements may be made by the Department Chair for proctoring by a qualified practitioner who is not a member of the Medical Staff.
4. If the proctor and the practitioner being proctored disagree as to what constitutes appropriate care for a patient, the Department Chair will be asked by the proctor or practitioner being proctored to intervene and adjudicate the conflict.

### **Proctored Practitioner Duties**

1. Must assure that the procedures or medical admissions and the performance of any procedures requiring advanced proctoring are proctored in a timely manner.
2. Must notify the proctor of each case where care is to be evaluated and do so in sufficient time to allow the proctor to observe or review retrospectively. For elective surgical or invasive procedures where direct observation is required, the practitioner must secure agreement from the proctor to attend the procedure before the procedure is scheduled. If an emergency situation exists and the practitioner must admit and treat a patient, the practitioner must notify the proctor as soon as is reasonably possible to continue with the concurrent proctoring process.
3. Must provide the proctor with the patient's clinical history, pertinent physical findings, pertinent laboratory and x-ray results, the planned course of treatment or management and the rationale for its use.
4. Shall have the prerogative of requesting from the Department Chair a change of proctor if he/she reasonably concludes that disagreements with the current proctor may adversely affect his/her ability to satisfactorily complete the proctorship. The Department Chair shall make his or her recommendation in this matter to the Medical Staff Executive Committee for their final action.

### **Proctor Duties**

1. The proctor must directly observe the procedure being performed and/or retrospectively evaluate medical management and complete the appropriate proctoring form.
2. Procedure proctoring should address:
  - a) the indications and preparation of the patient for the procedure; and
  - b) the technical skill demonstrated in performing the procedure.
3. The proctor will be expected to make reasonable accommodation to be available for cases that require direct observation. If the proctor is called upon to act as the assistant surgeon, the case cannot be counted as a proctored case.
4. Direct observation of procedures may be continued beyond the minimum proctoring requirements, if needed, until the proctor has observed a sufficient number of cases to make an informed judgment regarding the clinical performance of the individual being proctored. A request for additional proctoring requirements may be made by the proctor and submitted

to the Department Chair for review and referral to the Medical Staff Executive Committee for action.

5. While the proctor's primary responsibility is to observe and evaluate performance, if the proctor reasonably believes that intervention is warranted to prevent harm to the patient, the proctor may take whatever action is reasonably necessary to protect the patient. If the case is stopped due to potential harm to the patient, the case is not considered proctored.
6. The proctor must assure the confidentiality of the proctoring report form. The proctor report form should be held by the proctor during any periods of review and should not be attached to the patient's medical record. When proctoring is completed, the proctor must deliver the completed proctoring form to the Department Chair.

### **Termination of Proctorship**

1. Termination of proctorship requires a report to the Credentials Committee from the Department Chair. The report shall include:
  - a) The types and numbers of cases proctored;
  - b) An evaluation of clinical performance;
  - c) a statement regarding the practitioner's ability to practice without supervision.
2. A practitioner under proctorship, regardless of the reason or the category of Medical Staff membership, shall remain under proctorship until the proctorship has been terminated by the Medical Staff Executive Committee.

### **Failure to Satisfactorily Complete Focused Professional Practice Evaluation**

1. If a Provisional staff member fails to satisfy the proctoring requirements solely because of the failure to perform the required number of cases within the time frame defined in Medical Staff Bylaws and Medical Staff policies, then both the clinical privileges being proctored and the provisional staff member's membership will automatically terminate.
2. If a Provisional staff member fails to satisfy an advanced proctoring requirement solely because of failure to perform the required number of cases, then the specific advanced clinical privilege being proctored will automatically terminate. The provisional staff member's membership and other clinical privileges, however, will not be affected.
3. The Credentials Committee may extend the period of proctoring for cause.
4. Failure to satisfy either core or advanced proctoring requirements based solely on a failure to perform the required number of cases is considered a failure to meet predetermined criteria established by the Medical Staff. In this circumstance the loss of Medical Staff membership and/or clinical privileges shall not be considered an adverse action based on medical disciplinary cause or reason and shall not be reportable under State or Federal regulations and the practitioner so affected shall have no right to a hearing.
5. If a practitioner fails to meet either core or advanced proctoring requirements based on quality of care concerns or medical disciplinary cause or reason, and the practitioner's privileges are terminated or otherwise restricted, hearing rights are afforded to the

practitioner and reporting obligations are carried out by the Medical Staff as defined in the Medical Staff Bylaws.

**Table 1**

**Minimum Core Proctoring Requirements by Department/Section**

SERVICE/DIVISION	PROCTORING REQUIREMENTS
Family Medicine	Five (5) cases
- Emergency Medicine	Five (5) cases
Internal Medicine & Sub-specialties	Five (5) cases
- Dermatology	Five (5) cases
- Neurology	Five (5) cases
- Pathology	Five (5) cases
- Radiology	Five (5) cases
- Psychiatry	Five (5) cases
- Radiation Oncology	Two (2) cases
OB/Gyn	Five (5) cases
General Pediatrics & Sub-specialties	Five (5) cases
General Surgery & Surgical Specialties	Five (5) cases
- Anesthesiology	Five (5) cases
- Orthopedic Surgery	Five (5) cases
- PM&R	Five (5) cases
- Dentistry & Oral Surgery	Five (5) cases
- Ophthalmology	Five (5) cases

**APPROVAL:**

Medical Staff Executive Committee: 1/1/2008/reviewed with no revisions 08/31/2019

Governing Body: 1/1/2008/reviewed with no revisions 08/31/2019

**REVIEW HISTORY**

1/2008

5/2010

11/2012

8/2013

8/2016

8/2019