

DAVIS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

TITLE/DESCRIPTION: Disaster/Emergency Privileges EM.02.02.13 MS.01.01.01 #17				
Effective: 1/17/05	REVIEWED: 1/2006	Revised: 03/20/2009	Applies To: Medical Staff Allied Health Professional Staff	Credentials Committee Review: 03/24/2009 Approved By: MEC: 04/07/2009 BOT: 04/21/09

PURPOSE:

During a disaster in which the Hospital-wide Emergency Management or Disaster Plan has been activated, and the hospital is unable to meet immediate patient needs, the Chief of Staff, Vice-Chief of Staff or Executive Director may grant emergency disaster privileges, at his/her discretion on a case-by-case basis, to any qualified licensed independent practitioner who is needed to supplement or substitute for a member of the Medical Staff to handle immediate patient needs.

POLICY:

Any qualified licensed independent practitioner must be granted emergency/disaster privileges prior to providing patient care. Emergency/disaster privileges granted to volunteer licensed independent practitioner under a disaster situation will not exceed the disaster response and recovery period.

Any practitioner granted emergency/disaster privileges shall not be entitled to the procedural rights afforded by the Medical Staff Bylaws, Fair Hearing Policy or appeal process because of his/her inability to obtain privileges or because of any termination or suspension of these privileges.

The Hospital-wide Emergency Management or Disaster Plan must be activated and the hospital must be unable to handle immediate patient needs for this policy to become effective.

PROCEDURE:

1. Emergency/Disaster privileges will only be granted upon presentation of a valid government issued photo ID (e.g., driver's licensure or passport), and at least one of the following:
 - ❖ A current picture identification card from a health care organization that clearly identifies professional designation
 - ❖ A current license to practice
 - ❖ Primary source verification of the license
 - ❖ Identification indicating that the practitioner is a member of a Disaster Medical Assistance Team, Medical Reserve Corps, Emergency System for Advance Registration

of Volunteer Health Professionals, or other recognized state or federal organization or group

- ❖ Identification indicating that the practitioner has been granted authority by a government entity to provide patient care, treatment or services in Disaster/Emergency circumstances;
 - ❖ Confirmation by a licensed independent practitioner currently privileged by the hospital or by a staff member with personal knowledge regarding the volunteer's practitioner's ability to act as a licensed independent practitioner during a disaster.
2. Upon approval, the practitioner shall be issued a Disaster/Emergency Picture ID Badge to allow the hospital staff to readily identify the practitioner as holding disaster privileges and shall be assigned to a medical staff member to assist in the care of disaster victims. The Medical Staff member will oversee the performance of the practitioner either by direct observation, mentoring or medical record review. Based on oversight of the volunteer practitioner, the hospital will determine within 72 hours of the practitioner's arrival if granted disaster privileges should continue.
 3. Primary source verification will be considered a high priority and completed as soon as the immediate situation is under control, and will be completed within 72 hours from the time the licensed independent practitioner is granted emergency/disaster privileges. In circumstances where primary source verification cannot be completed within 72 hours due to unforeseen circumstances (i.e., no means of communication or a lack of resources), the hospital will make every attempt to complete the primary source verification as soon possible. In this extraordinary circumstance the following must be documented:
 - ❖ Why primary source verification could not be performed in the required timeframe;
 - ❖ Evidence of a demonstrated ability to continue to provide adequate care, treatment and services, and an attempt to rectify the situation as soon as possible. (Primary source verification of licensure is not required if the volunteer practitioner does not provide care, treatment or services under the disaster privileges.)
 4. If problems are found during the primary source verification process, the Chief of Staff, Vice-Chief of Staff or Executive Director will be notified immediately.
 5. The Chief of Staff, Vice-Chief of Staff or the Executive director may at his/her discretion; terminate a volunteer's disaster privileges at any time without reason or cause.
 6. A practitioner who has been granted disaster privileges shall not be entitled to any procedural rights set forth in the Bylaws, including the Fair Hearing Policy or appeal.