

**TITLE: MEDICAL STAFF CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES POLICY STATEMENT**  
**POLICY #**

**MANUAL: MEDICAL STAFF**

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Effective Date: 12/20/93

Approval         /s/        

Reviewed/Revised: 02/96, 01/99,  
03/99, 8/04, 6/08, 2/17

Margaret McEvoy, M.D., Chief of Staff

**I PURPOSE\EXPECTED OUTCOME(S)**

This policy is intended to clarify the purpose of establishing clinical practice guidelines for the care of patients at Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital consistent with the organization's mission and values.

**II POLICY**

1. The Medical Staff of Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital believe Clinical Practice Guidelines can serve the
2. following purposes:
  - a. Enhance quality of care through standardization and evidence-based practices.
  - b. Address issues of variation in practice and/or outcomes
  - c. Enhanced completeness in writing orders using pre-defined Order Sets or clinical pathways.
3. Clinical Practice Guidelines are established according to evidence-based practices and monitored by program or service line using specific outcome or process measures. Clinical Practice Guidelines are considered when designing or improving processes, as appropriate. Extensive variation in process may result in the consideration of selecting a clinical practice guideline. Sources of clinical practice guidelines include, but are not limited to, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, National Guideline Clearinghouse and professional organizations. Clinical Practice Guidelines include, but are not limited to, the nationally reported clinical indicators. It is acknowledged that there will be circumstances in which the patient's condition requires a departure from the relevant Clinical Practice Guidelines. The organization manages, evaluates and learns from variation through monitoring and review for effectiveness, with modifications made as necessary.
4. The Medical Staff of the Hospital determines that Clinical Practice Guidelines may be adopted by the appropriate department or committee, subject to approval of the Medical Executive Committee. Such adoption and implementation in no way obligates medical staff members to manage their patients consistent with such guidelines. However, to the extent the Medical Staff members use Clinical Practice Guidelines, as a foundation for

orders, it is advisable that they document in the medical record their rationale when departing from the guidelines

Chapter/Department: Medical Staff

References:

Reviewed/Revised by: Medical Staff Officers

Approvals:

Medical Executive Committee 02/14/17

Board of Trustees 02/28/17

Distribution: Medical Staff