DIRECTOR OF ANESTHESIA SERVICES JOB DESCRIPTION

Anesthesiology is the practice of medicine including, but not limited to, preoperative patient evaluation, anesthetic planning, intraoperative and postoperative care and the management of systems and personnel to support these activities. In addition, anesthesiology involves perioperative consultation, the prevention and management of untoward perioperative patient conditions, the treatment of acute and chronic pain, and the care of critically ill patients. This care is personally provided by or directed by the anesthesiologist. Thus, it is essential that hospitals use the following criteria in determining qualifications for the director of anesthesia services.

- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) hospital Conditions of Participation (CoP) and their applicable interpretive guidelines require that a hospital, which furnishes anesthesia services, must provide these services in a well-organized manner under the direction of a qualified doctor of medicine or osteopathy. The service is responsible for all anesthesia administered in the hospital. The following attributes and responsibilities are required by the CMS CoP (§482.52): The anesthesia services must be organized under the direction of a Director who is a qualified doctor of medicine (MD) or doctor of osteopathy (DO) (§482.52).
- The hospital's governing body approves, after considering the medical staff's recommendations, medical staff rules and regulations establishing criteria for the qualifications for the director of the anesthesia services. Such criteria must be consistent with State laws and acceptable standards of practice (§482.52).
- The head of anesthesia services has the authority and responsibility for directing the administration of all anesthesia services, including anesthesia and analgesia, throughout the hospital (including all departments in all campuses and off-site locations where anesthesia services are provided) (§482.52).
- Responsibility for evaluating the quality and appropriateness of the anesthesia patient care as part of the hospital's QAPI (Quality Assessment / Performance Improvement) program (§482.52).

Pursuant to the requirement that "Anesthesia services must be delivered in a manner that is consistent with the needs and the resources of the hospital" there are requirements for policies implemented by the Director of Anesthesia Services. Anesthesia policies at a minimum must address (§482.52(b)):

- How the hospital's anesthesia services needs will be met;
- Delivery of anesthesia services consistent with recognized standards for anesthesia care. A well-designed anesthesia services policy would address issues such as:
  - Patient consent;
  - Infection control measures;

- Safety practices in all anesthetizing areas;
- Protocol for supportive life functions, e.g., cardiac and respiratory
- emergencies;
- Reporting requirements;
- Documentation requirements;
- Equipment requirements, as well as the monitoring, inspection, testing and maintenance of anesthesia equipment in the hospital's biomedical equipment program; and
- Delineation of pre- and post-anesthesia staff responsibilities.

In addition to considering the administrative, clinical and programmatic needs of the department and facilities served, the following criteria should be considered in development of a job description for the Director of Anesthesia Services:

- Successfully completed a training program in anesthesiology accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or equivalent organization
- Current, full and unrestricted license to practice medicine in the State, Territory or Commonwealth of the United States or in the District of Columbia where the hospital or facility is located
- Current, unrestricted DEA registration (schedules II-IV) or no history of revocation of DEA registration (schedules II-IV) within the past five years.
- Permanent certification by the American Board of Anesthesiology (ABA) or current recertification within the time interval required by the ABA
- Compliance with the ABA Maintenance of Certification in Anesthesiology Program (MOCA)
- Current Physician's Recognition Award of the American Medical Association or a minimum of 250 credits earned from educational activities that meet the AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ requirements over 10 years or 25 credits each year. In addition, the Society recommends 20 Patient Safety Category 1 CME be earned during each 10 year period
- Compliance with relevant state or institutional requirements for CME.
- At least 50 percent of CME hours in anesthesiology or its subspecialties
- Demonstration of competence in advanced life support
- Agreement in writing to abide by the ASA "Guidelines for the Ethical Practice of Anesthesiology" (Approved by the ASA House of Delegates on October 15, 2003, last amended on October 19, 2011, and reaffirmed on October 16, 2013)