

**MEDICAL STAFF
CONSULTATION POLICY
OF UPMC PINNACLE HOSPITALS**

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CONSULTATION POLICY

1. SCOPE OF POLICY

This Policy applies to the Practitioners who practice at UPMC Pinnacle Hospitals (the “Hospital”) and supplements all other Medical Staff Bylaws documents that have been adopted at the Hospital, including the UPMC Medical Staff Rules and Regulations.

2. RESPONSE TIMES

Any individual with clinical privileges can be asked for a consultation within his or her area of expertise. Practitioners who are asked to provide an inpatient consultation are expected to respond in accordance with the following response times, unless (i) another time frame is agreed upon by the requesting and Consulting Practitioners, or (ii) a specific time frame is required for the specialty (e.g., cardiology):

- (a) Emergent Consults – the Consulting Practitioner must evaluate the patient within **60 minutes** after the request is received and cannot be refused;
- (b) Urgent Consults – where the request is urgent, the Consulting Practitioner must evaluate the patient within **16 hours** of the request;
- (c) Routine Consults – for routine consultations, the Consulting Practitioner must evaluate the patient within **24 hours** of the request.

3. SPECIFIC CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

- (a) Consultations are recommended in all non-emergency cases whenever requested by the patient, or the patient’s personal representative if the patient is incompetent.
- (b) Consultations are also recommended in all cases in which, in the judgment of the attending physician:
- (c) A consultation should be considered whenever a pregnant patient is admitted to a department other than the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.
- (d) Additional consultation requirements may be mandated in accordance with Hospital or UPMC policy.
- (e) Failure or refusal to seek a required consultation will be forwarded to the Leadership Council for review and appropriate action.

4. AMENDMENTS

- (a) This Policy may be amended by a majority vote of the members of the Medical Executive Committee.
- (b) Prior to initiating the formal notice process below, the Medical Executive Committee shall submit all proposed amendments to the Medical Review Council for review and comment. Proposed amendments that are determined to be relevant to other UPMC Hospitals will be forwarded by the Medical Review Council to those hospitals for consideration by their respective Medical Executive Committees.
- (c) No amendment shall be effective unless and until it has been approved by the Board.

Adopted by the Medical Executive Committee on March 25, 2024.

Approved by the Board on March 2, 2024.