(A) **Policy Statement**

The SICU shall be properly directed by qualified individuals according to the scope of services offered.

(B) **Purpose of Policy**

To provide a specific designation and sequence for responsibility in the administration of the SICU and the care provided there in.

(C) **Procedure**

1. The Medical Director of the SICU (respectively), or designee, will be ultimately responsible for the administration of the unit and medical care rendered. He/she will have the authority to implement and supervise existing unit policies, acting through the Nursing Director or designee, as necessary. Medical care will also be guided by a standing committee member of the medical staff. In the absence of the Medical Director of the SICU, the available Medical Director shall assume responsibility for the unit.

2. The Nursing Director of the SICU will be responsible for the nursing care as well as nursing administrative functions of the unit and other designated responsibilities. The Nursing Director will report and confer with the Medical Directors and the Chief Nursing Officer regarding pertinent nursing and/or medical care concerns. The Nursing Director will be a registered nurse with relevant education, training, and experience, with demonstrated current competence in coronary care, neurological, neurosurgical, and medical intensive care nursing.

3. The Nursing Director shall appoint a registered nurse on each shift to be charge nurse. The charge nurse will be responsible for the coordination of the nursing care on the shift as well as some administrative functions for that shift. The charge nurse will report to the Nursing Director, House Supervisor and the Medical Directors, as indicated.
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<th>Policies Superseded by This Policy:</th>
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It is the responsibility of the reader to verify with the responsible agent that this is the most current version of the policy.