(A) Policy statement

(1) The service chief or his designee will create a schedule of responsibility for continuous emergency room and hospital inpatient coverage. At a minimum of two weeks prior to the scheduled period, the schedule will be provided to the medical staff office, hospital operators, emergency room, and other appropriate locations. Once the schedule has been submitted by the service chief, it is the responsibility of the physician scheduled for coverage to be available himself or to arrange for another physician to take his place. It is desirable that schedule changes should be made in writing if time permits.

(2) The hospital operators are the holders of the official schedule.

(3) Failure of the assigned physician to respond while assigned to call coverage shall result in suspension of his privileges until an evaluation of the circumstances can be completed by the service chief and chief of staff. If necessary after the evaluation, the procedure for modification or termination of privileges can be initiated.

(B) Purpose of policy

The purpose of this policy is to establish the authority of the service chief to create a coverage schedule and the responsibility of the medical staff members to provide continuous coverage for the emergency room and hospital patients.

(C) Procedure

The procedure is as outlined in the policy.
Emergency and Inpatient Coverage Responsibilities

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Date

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Date

Review/Revision Completed by:
Medical Executive Committee

Policies Superseded by This Policy:

- MS-025 Emergency and Inpatient Coverage Responsibilities

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