

LEE MEMORIAL HEALTH SYSTEM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

POLICY MANUAL

no. 10.19 D

supersedes no. 10.19 C

category: General Operations
title: Risk Management and Safety

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PURPOSE:

To establish Risk Management and Safety Programs.

POLICY:

There shall be Risk Management and Safety Programs for Lee Memorial Health System, directed toward reducing, to the greatest degree possible, the incidence of accidents and injuries to patients, employees, visitors and others in the hospital environment, and consisting of the following elements:

1. A Chief Legal Officer, qualified under Florida law, to manage the system's Risk Management Program in accordance with Florida law;
2. A Patient Safety Officer, qualified by experience and training, to manage the system's Patient Safety activities;
3. An Environmental Safety Officer, qualified by experience and training, to manage the system's Environmental Safety Program;
4. Committee to oversee patient safety and environment of care, constituted and functioning in accordance with applicable accreditation standards and regulatory rules;
5. Board Liaison functions and roles; and
6. A mechanism for periodic reports, no less than quarterly, to the Board of Directors regarding risk management and safety issues, to keep the Board informed and to permit development of appropriate board policy in such matters.

PROCEDURE:

1. The health system President shall appoint a Patient Safety Officer, an Environmental Safety Officer and the Chief Legal Officer pursuant to this policy, and see to the creation of administrative committees and the adoption of such administrative policies and procedures as are necessary to carry out this board policy.
2. The Board of Directors shall review, at least quarterly, but as often as needed, risk management and safety reports; and if needed, develop appropriate policy regarding accident prevention in the institution. Concern for individual patient and physician confidentiality will be maintained in this process.
3. The Board Chairman shall appoint a member of the Board of Directors to serve as a liaison to the health system's administrative quality and patient safety review function in order to observe and be informed of organizational decision making and performance improvement. If during the course of performing the liaison functions, the Board liaison identifies deficiencies in organizational decision making or performance improvement, the Board liaison will so advise the Patient Safety Officer. If such deficiencies are not addressed, the Board Liaison shall direct the matter to the health system President and/or Board Counsel for immediate consideration. If such deficiencies remain and Board action is warranted, the Board Liaison may direct the matter to the Board of Directors.
4. The Chief Legal Officer or their designee will notify the Chairman of the Board when a matter is reported to the Agency for Healthcare Administration in accordance with Florida law governing acute care risk management programs. In addition, such matters will be referred to the health system administrative quality and safety review committee.