

**MEDICAL STAFF AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
MEDICAL STAFF OF BOULDER**

EKG PANEL READER COMPOSITION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibility: Critical Care Committee
Medical Staff of Boulder

Purpose: Define EKG panel reader guidelines. Maintain timeliness of EKG interpretation.

Procedure:

Testing: All active staff members wishing to become a panel reader will be required to take the panel reader test. Any physician who is a member of the medical staff of Boulder Community Hospital and who has been granted unrestricted EKG reading privileges to the hospital shall, upon his or her request and upon verification of their eligibility by the steering Committee of the EKG panel (that is, having being credentialed by clinic service, the billing company used by the EKG panel), will become a partner on July 1st of the year when the request is made or on January 1st of the year following the request, whichever is sooner. The Medical Staff and Professional Services Department will notify the Cardiopulmonary Department and the steering committee of the EKG panel of all new panel reader members.

Testing Procedure: The applicant for the EKG Panel will make arrangements to take the test in the Medical Staff and Professional Services Department and the grading will be a panel reader appointed by the Medical Staff and Professional Services Department. If the first test is failed, the applicant will have one month to retake the test. If the second attempt is failed, the applicant will be required to wait until the following April to reapply for panel reader.

Appeals Process: If an applicant fails the test twice and would like to appeal his/her eligibility to serve as a panel reader, he/she will provide a written letter to the Critical Care Committee requesting a review and/or interview with the committee to state their case. The decision of the Critical Care Committee will be final.

**Panel Reader
Schedule:**

The panel readers will have one week, that is 7 days, schedules, Monday through Sunday. The Cardiopulmonary Department will be responsible for the semi-annual panel schedule having been advised by the EKG Steering Committee. There will be fifty-two panel readers slots per year.

Panel Reader Responsibilities:

Panel readers will interpret all EKGs performed at Boulder Community Hospital.

Panel readers will over-read EKGs from the previous month.

Each panel reader will have a formal contract with the hospital.

Panel readers will notify attending physician in the event of an alarming EKG result.

The panel readers will interpret EKGs twice a day, Monday through Friday, one session before 8:30 a.m. and one session after 4:00 p.m. Panel readers will interpret once per day on weekends.

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Failure to comply with the requirements for timely interpretations two times during a given year will be reported to the Critical Care Committee for further action. This could result in removal of the panel reader from the panel for the remainder of the current year and the following calendar year. Panel readers may appeal to the Critical Care Committee in these instances.

If the panel reader wishes to trade with another panel reader, he/she must inform the Cardiopulmonary Department one week in advance of his/her scheduled week.

All substitute readers must be panel readers, and is the responsibility of the panel reader to find a substitute.

Hospital Responsibility:

The panel reader schedule will be published on a semi-annual basis by the Cardiopulmonary Department with the advice of the EKG Panel Steering Committee.

EKG's will be in the panel reader's boxes by 8:00 a.m. daily, seven days a week.

Miscellaneous:

Holter monitoring and stress testing are not a part of "Panel Reader".

CCU privileges are not affected by this system.

A physician is considered eligible to apply to be a panel member without being required to apply for or hold CCU privileges.

Approved:

Critical Care Committee Chairperson

Date

Medical Executive Committee Chairperson

Date