

Control Over Practice

Patient Care Services (PCS) is committed to positioning nurses to have a strong voice in issues affecting patient care and quality of work-life. It is a strongly held value of PCS that participation in decision-making is empowering and that, with sufficient knowledge, people will make appropriate decisions.

There are a variety of unit-level, as well as, hospital-wide committees/meetings in which staff nurses and nurses in leadership positions participate with representatives of other disciplines and services in making clinical and business decisions that affect the delivery of nursing care.

Unit-Level Meetings and Committees

Nursing and multidisciplinary meetings and committees convened to optimize patient care for specific patient populations. Each nurse is encouraged to bring to his/her immediate supervisor any concern related to patient care or the need for additional resources to provide quality patient care.

Collaborative Governance

A communication and decision-making model which places authority, responsibility and accountability for patient care with the practicing clinician. Staff nurses serve as co-leaders or participants on all Collaborative Governance Committees which include: Nursing Practice, Ethics in Clinical Practice, Quality, Diversity Steering, Nursing Research, Patient Education, Professional Development, and Staff Nurse Advisory.

Multidisciplinary Committees and/or Task Forces

- **Nursing Materials Management Task Force**
Convened to enhance communication and service coordination between Nursing and Materials Management.
- **Pharmacy Nursing Performance Improvement Committee**
Co-chaired by a staff nurse and a pharmacist. Analyzes and improves issues related to assuring a safe, effective, and efficient drug delivery system.
- **Code and Emergency Response Committee**
Co-chaired by a nurse and a physician. Monitors and reviews the code and emergency response system, and makes recommendations for improvement.
- **Patient Care Assessment Committee**
Oversees MGH programs designed to assure effective evaluation of patient care in all departments and services. Includes activities related to: quality assurance, risk management, utilization review, peer review, and impaired providers.
- **Medical Policy Committee**
Reports into the General Executive Committee and has oversight accountability for clinical policy decisions.

- **Board of Trustees Quality Committee**
Focuses on three specific areas: quality of care reviews, clinical direction, and professional staff credentialing and privileging.
- **Executive Operations Group**
Chaired by President of MGH, and focuses on operational management of the organization.
- **Chiefs' Council**
Oversight responsibility for quality of care and treatment of patients within the Service or Clinical Department. The Chief Nurse attends these meetings.
- **General Executive Committee**
Clinical and administrative leaders who approve policies and procedures related to patient care. The Chief Nurse is a voting member of this committee.
- **Board of Trustees**
Interdisciplinary members, accountable for long-term planning and strategic initiatives for the hospital. The Chief Nurse attends these meetings and provides input into key issues and decisions that impact Nursing and Patient Care Services.