

481—51.30(135B) Emergency services. All hospitals shall provide for emergency service which offers reasonable care within the medical capabilities of the facility in determining whether an emergency exists, renders care appropriate to the facility and at a minimum renders lifesaving first aid and makes appropriate referral to a facility that is capable of providing needed services.

51.30(1) The hospital has written policies and procedures specifying the scope and conduct of patient care to be provided in the emergency service.

a. The policies specify the mechanism for providing physician coverage at all times as defined by the medical staff bylaws.

b. The policies provide for a planned, formal training program required of all personnel providing patient care in the emergency service. This program shall cover emergency care for patients of all ages.

c. The policies require that a medical record be kept on every patient given treatment in the emergency service and establish the medical record documentation. The documentation should include at a minimum appropriate information regarding the medical screening provided, except where the person refuses, then notation of patient refusal; physician documentation of the presence or absence of an emergency medical condition or active labor; physician documentation of transfer or discharge, stating the basis for transfer or discharge; and where transfer occurs, identity of the facility of transfer, acceptance of the patient by the facility of transfer, and means of transfer of the patient.

d. The policies and procedures are reviewed and approved annually by the governing board.

51.30(2) Hospital policies and procedures shall be developed in accordance with the hospital's medical, technological, personnel and equipment capabilities.