



KERN HEALTH SYSTEMS

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POLICY AND PROCEDURES					
SUBJECT: Use of Evidence Based Clinical Practice Guidelines				POLICY #: 2.55-P	
DEPARTMENT: Quality Improvement – Disease Management					
Effective Date: <i>11/24/2014</i>	Review/Revised Date:	DMHC		PAC	
		DHCS		QI/UM COMMITTEE	
		BOD		FINANCE COMMITTEE	

Douglas Hayward

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 Chief Executive Officer

Date *11/24/14*

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 Chief Medical Officer

Date *11/24/14*

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 Director of Health Services

Date *11/24/14*

I. PURPOSE:

To ensure that Kern Health Systems (KHS) Disease Management Programs are based on scientific evidence vetted by one or more clinical experts.

II. POLICY:

KHS Disease Management area utilizes nationally recognized clinical practice guidelines as a base for the development of all their Disease Management Programs.

These evidence based practice guidelines are:

- Periodically reviewed and updated (at least annually).
- Monitored to ensure that the guidelines remain relevant to the specific Disease Management Program.
- Referenced within the Disease Management Program descriptions.
- Used to develop Disease Management Program goal setting, Quality Improvement Activities, patient educational materials, and outcomes measurement processes.
- Modified only with the input of a content expert with experience in the medical condition.

DEFINITIONS:

Clinical Practice Guideline – Systemically developed statements to assist practitioners and patient decisions about appropriate health care for specific circumstances.

Evidence Based Practice – Thoughtful integration of the best available evidence, coupled with clinical expertise. It enables health practitioners of all varieties to address healthcare issues with an evaluative and qualitative approach.

Goal – Desired result that is part of care plan development and is specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and objective.

Monitoring – To observe for changes, progress, deterioration in order to update or revise plan of care.

Outcome Measure – Determination and evaluation of the results of an activity, plan, process or intervention and comparison with the intended or projected results.

III. PROCEDURE:

KHS's Disease Management Programs include the following processes to ensure that the programs managing clinical conditions are based on up to date clinical practice guidelines:

- A. Program descriptions include all references for organizations and sites used in development of program parameters. Program descriptions are reviewed and approved by the Medical Director.
- B. Capability exists to route practitioners to appropriate websites for additional research and information or to view the guidelines utilized.
- C. Quality Improvement/Utilization Management Committee meetings are scheduled quarterly and used for review and approval of Disease Management Program additions and revisions.
- D. The Quality Improvement Department is responsible for ongoing monitoring of any recommendations for changes in the management of clinical conditions covered by the Disease Management Programs and providing feedback.
- E. The Quality Improvement/Utilization Committee includes clinical experts, specialists, and other physicians as members.

Revision 2014-11: Policy created by Health Education and Disease Management Manager as recommended by Fluidedge Consulting.