

DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIOLOGY



Title: Department of Anesthesiology Quality and Process Improvement Oversight Committee

Created: 05-23-12

Revised: 04-23-16

Overview: The role of the Quality and Process Improvement (QAPI) Oversight Committee is to:

1. Receive, categorize, and triage non-routine events for subsequent analysis by the Peer Review Committee (PRC) and/or the Quality, Morbidity, Mortality and Improvement Committee (QMMI);
2. Prioritize data requests for quality related projects and communicate those priorities to the Perioperative Data Systems Research group (PDSR);
3. Prioritize and endorse departmental quality improvement projects;
4. Offer guidance and facilitation of collaboration among faculty, residents, and staff engaged in quality improvement activities.

Membership and meetings: The committee is chaired by the Departmental Patient Safety Officer. The PRC chair, the QMMI chair, and the director of PDSR are *ex officio* members. The committee meets as frequently as required to conduct its business.

Procedures:

1. Non-Routine Event Analysis

- a. The Quality and Performance Improvement Committee selects cases to refer for consideration by the PRC and/or the QMMI committees. A variety of information sources are used to identify cases for possible review including morbidity and mortality case reports, Veritas reports, risk management reports, and reports from nursing, anesthesia, and surgical staff.
- b. Pre-review: The QAPI Chair performs an initial review of the medical record, conducts preliminary interviews with the involved clinical staff, and makes a determination regarding the presence of a reasonable concern of non-ideal performance, human error, or systems failure. If there is such a concern, the issue is referred to the PRC or QMMI committees.
- c. Occasionally an additional referral may be made to a Division Chief, Exec Vice Chair, or the Chair.

2. Data requests to the PDSR

- a. QAPI reviews quality project related data requests. Data requests are prioritized according to departmental need, potential impact, and resource requirements.

3. Quality Project Facilitation

Revised: April 16

DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIOLOGY

VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER

- a. QAPI reviews, prioritizes, and endorses departmental quality projects. Project reviews are focused on reducing duplication of effort and facilitating collaboration between groups working on similar projects.
4. The QAPI Chair provides summary reports of the committee's activities to the Department Chair and Exec Vice Chair at least annually.