

DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIOLOGY

VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER

Title: Department of Anesthesiology Quality, Morbidity, Mortality, & Improvement Committee

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Overview: The role of the Quality, Morbidity, Mortality, & Improvement (QMMI) Committee is to:

1. Investigate and evaluate non-routine events that appear related to system-based factors, errors, or other opportunities for improvement in the delivery of safe patient care (referred by the QAPI Oversight Committee, Peer Review Committee, or other sources);
2. Select cases for presentation at Departmental and Combined Surgical-Anesthesiology-Perioperative Services QMMI Conferences;
3. Assist in the organization and presentation at quarterly Combined Surgical-Anesthesiology-Perioperative Services QMMI Conferences;
4. Refer cases that appear to demonstrate deviations from standards of practice by individuals to the Peer Review Committee;
5. Report all findings and initiatives to the QAPI Oversight Committee and Departmental leadership;

Membership and meetings: The committee consists of senior faculty, CRNA leadership, and a chief resident from the Department of Anesthesiology. The Patient Safety Officer is an *ex officio* member. The committee meets as frequently as required to conduct its business.

Procedures:

1. Non-Routine Event Analysis

Cases are referred for review by the QAPI Committee, the Peer Review Committee, or department leadership. The QMMI Chair performs an initial pre-review of the medical record and may conduct preliminary interviews with the involved clinical staff in order to determine if the event appears related to a systems failure or systems-related occurrence. If so, the issue is presented to the QMMI committee for its review. When the QMMI Committee reviews the event, it evaluates whether a systems-based error occurred, whether system-based improvement is needed, and it proposes action plans or makes referrals for quality improvement initiatives. Any apparent individual performance issues or deviations from the standard of care are referred to the Patient Safety Officer and the Peer Review Committee Chair.

2. QMMI Conferences:

QMMI Conferences: The Chair of QMMI Committee oversees the planning and scheduling of conferences and the presentation of cases selected for Departmental and Combined Surgical-Anesthesiology-Perioperative Services QMMI Conferences.

3. The QMMI Chair provides summary reports of the committee's activities to the Department Chair and Vice Chair for Clinical Affairs at least annually.

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