




Scope of Services

April 2021 Monthly Education

Title: Scope of Services	Policy Number: OP.021.0
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Source: SerenaGroup™ Inc.	Revisions:
	Medical Director SerenaGroup, Inc. Thomas E. Serena MD FACS

SCOPE:

The Advanced Wound Care Center accepts for care, treatment and services only those patients whose identified care, treatment and service needs it can meet.

PURPOSE:

Provide guidance to employees on expectations and deliverables required in order to meet patient's needs.

BACKGROUND:

The Advance Wound Care Center provides advanced outpatient therapy/treatment for chronic non-healing wounds consistent with specific medical needs of the patients. The primary goal of the center is to provide vital services to the population at risk, which includes patients of multiple and differing socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds. These are patients with diabetes, renal failure, peripheral vascular disease, hypertension and many other chronic illnesses and their sequelae.

The main objective of the program is to be a "Center of Excellence" providing cutting edge patient care service, utilizing advanced treatment and prevention modalities.

AGE POPULATIONS:

The program has been designed to meet specific medical needs of the adult population. Under special circumstances and on a case-by-case basis needs of other patient populations may be considered.

TYPES OF PATIENTS:

The patients seen in the program are typically the outpatient population with chronic difficult heal wounds, varying in age, who come to us from home, hospital, extended/long term care facilities with underlying illnesses including:

- Age-related illnesses
- A variety of chronic illnesses, such as diabetes, vascular disease, hypertension and their complications

- Auto-immune illnesses and their complications
- Post-traumatic injuries
- Skin problems

CARE AND SERVICES PROVIDED:

The services provided by the center include, but are not limited to:
Chronic wound management/treatment including:

- Vascular assessment
- Infection control
- Surgical wound debridement/excision
- Prescribing appropriate topical agents
- Application of various devices to aid in healing, i.e. NPWT and like devices
- Application of skin grafts or biological dressings
- Nutritional assessment
- Edema control
- Offloading/pressure relief methods and devices
- Hyperbaric medicine as an adjunctive therapy for Medicare-approved indications

HOURS OF SERVICE:

The center is typically open 5 days a week, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. However, hours may be added as needed and approved by hospital.

STAFFING PLAN

The center is staffed with:

1. Medical staff members whose disciplines may include Orthopedic Surgery, General Surgery, Vascular Surgery, Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, Podiatry and Podiatric Surgery, Internal Medicine, Infectious Disease, Nephrology or Dermatology. Qualified practitioners are selected based on:

- Interest in an interdisciplinary approach and collaboration in the care of chronic non-healing wounds
- Proven skills in a relevant discipline
- Medical and specialty experience
- Established reputation in the medical community
- Hospital staff privileges
- Ability to perform the requirements of the service to be rendered.
- May include nurse practitioners and physicians assistants as allowed by state practice act.

2. Center staff members include a full-time qualified clinical manager, nursing personnel and clerical support staff. The type and number are selected based on qualifications, experience and clinic needs. Center needs are determined by the number of active patients in the program, the type and the acuity of patients, the type of service required by the



patients and the overall requirements of the center. The members of the staff may include registered nurses, licensed vocational nurses, nurse practitioner/physician assistant, enterostomal therapy nurse, certified hyperbaric technicians, medical assistants and clerical staff.

PLAN FOR IMPROVING QUALITY OF CARE:

The quality management program is designed to measure outcomes and related processes of care and to seek ways to improve the quality of services provided at the center. The key elements of the program are:

- Collection of meaningful data
- Selection of measurable indicators
- A valid method of data collection, management and storage
- Analysis of the data by qualified persons
- Reporting to pertinent hospital personnel and committees/teams

The center results are compared to national and/or systemwide benchmarks, when available, or the center historical data. Unmet goals are perceived as opportunities for improvement. Corrective actions are relevant to improving the services rendered.

STANDARD AND PRACTICE GUIDELINES:

The policies, procedures and standards of care are developed using the most recent scientifically valid practice guidelines. Sources include professional practice guidelines and standards, such as the American Society of Plastic Surgeons, American Medical Directors Association, American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons, American College of Foot and Ankle Orthopedics and Medicine, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Royal College of Nursing, Gerontology Nursing Interventions Research Center, American College of Radiology, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists, American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, American College of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, The American Geriatrics Society, The Wound Healing Society, The American Diabetes Association, and the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel.

COMPETENCY/EDUCATION:

Qualifications for the clinical staff of the Program include:

- Clinical competency, as determined by level of care provided
- Current state license, where applicable
- Current basic life support (BLS), where applicable
- Credentialing by the medical staff, where appropriate
- Certification in hyperbaric medicine

Competency of the staff is based on:

- Education and training (licensing, certification and credentialing as appropriate)
- Ability to demonstrate the necessary skills to perform assigned duties

- Years of experience
- Ability to communicate effectively with the medical staff, patients and their families

Allied health professionals will either be hospital employees or be credentialed by the medical staff services as permitted by medical staff bylaws.



Scope of Practice

A 2005 Federation of State Medical Boards report defined scope of practice as the “Definition of the rules, the regulations, and the boundaries within which a fully qualified practitioner with substantial and appropriate training, knowledge, and experience may practice in a field of medicine or surgery, or other specifically defined field. Such practice is also governed by requirements for continuing education and professional accountability.”

- **Registered Nurse • Licensed Vocational Nurse • Emergency Medical Technician (Basic, Intermediate, Paramedic) • Physical Therapy Assistant • Respiratory Therapist • Unlicensed Assistive Personnel (CMA & CNA)**



What does this mean for you?

Scope of Practice defines permissible activities for the members of a healthcare profession. In many cases, the scope is determined by laws within a particular jurisdiction, professional standards boards, and the administrators of specific healthcare facilities. Members of a healthcare profession are typically trained to understand the limitations on their professional tasks and responsibilities and to seek assistance from others when appropriate.

Healthcare workers who violate these laws risk not only losing their professional license but may be subject to criminal prosecution and civil lawsuits.



Before You Act

The scope of practice as permitted by law may be even more limited in certain healthcare institutions.

A hospital may have a policy of restricting the activities of non-physicians as a cautionary measure, even though the law in that jurisdiction permits other licensed healthcare workers to perform the procedure or activity. In such cases, a worker must be careful to “understand institutional policy” and to not unwittingly engage in a practice that he may have previously had permission to do but is now forbidden by his current employer.



Accountability in Your Center

Your hospital and SerenaGroup® have Policies, Processes and Job Descriptions that include components Scope of Practice elements allowed by employees under their jurisdiction.

Signed job descriptions and Primary Source Verification (PSV) is encouraged and recommended annually during Performance Evaluation period.



QUIZ TIME

SG

QUESTION 1:



There is no financial ramification for working outside established boundaries.

Answer: False



QUESTION 2:



Your institution dictates what you can and cannot do inside the hospital.

Answer: True



Thank you for taking the time to complete SerenaGroup Education for April 2021. SerenaGroup continues to focus on providing education to all clinical staff. If you have ideas, questions, comments around education – please reach out to the Education Committee Members.

SerenaGroup Education Committee Members,

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