The Hospital may grant disaster privileges when the highest-ranking administrative person in the facility has activated the emergency management plan (Code Orange) and the hospital is unable to meet the immediate patient needs. Chambersburg Hospital will ensure that the Board of Directors, during an emergency/disaster, can rapidly credential all volunteer licensed independent practitioners who are not currently medical staff members or allied health professionals.

PROCEDURE

1. The highest-ranking administrative person in the facility (in collaboration with the Emergency Department physician in charge), will determine the need for volunteer licensed independent practitioners (LIPs) in addition to those who already serve as members of the medical staff. As soon as the immediate situation is under control, the highest ranking administrative person in the facility will work with Provider Resources (or their designee) to expedite the following:

2. Provider Resources (or their designee)
   
   (a) Will automatically grant disaster privileges to any member of the medical staffs of Waynesboro Hospital or Dr. Roy A. Himelfarb Surgery Center to render his or her services during the disaster.
   
   (b) Will process any volunteer practitioner or allied health professional not on the medical staff of Chambersburg Hospital, Waynesboro Hospital, or Dr. Roy A. Himelfarb Surgery Center, to render his or her services during an emergency or disaster.
   
   (c) Will request a current license to practice in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (including, without limitation, a volunteer, extraterritorial or temporary license) and a valid government-issued picture identification issued by a state or federal agency (e.g., driver’s license or passport) and at least one of the following from said volunteer practitioner or allied health professional:
      
      i. A current picture hospital identification card that clearly identifies professional designation.
      
      ii. Primary source verification of the clinical State of Pennsylvania license.
iii. Identification indicating that the individual is a member of a Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT), or MRC, ESAR-VHP, or other recognized state or federal organization or group.

iv. Identification indicating that a federal, state, or municipal entity granted authority to the individual to render patient care, treatment, and services in disaster circumstances.

v. Identification by current hospital or medical staff member(s) who possess personal knowledge regarding volunteer’s ability to act as a licensed independent practitioner during a disaster

(d) Will request the following from said volunteer practitioner or allied health professional:

i. Information with regard to their current malpractice carrier.

ii. His or her social security number, date of birth, specialty training information, and all other necessary information required to conduct a National Practitioner Data Bank query.

iii. A complete Emergency Privileges form.

(e) Primary source verification of licensure begins as soon as the immediate situation is under control, and is completed within 72 hours from the time the volunteer practitioner presents to the organization. Note: In the extraordinary circumstance that primary source verification cannot be completed in 72 hours (e.g., no means of communication or a lack of resources), it is expected that it be done as soon as possible. In this extraordinary circumstance, there must be documentation of the following: why the facility could not perform primary source verification in the required time frame; evidence of a demonstrated ability to continue to provide adequate care, treatment, and services; and an attempt to rectify the situation as soon as possible. Primary source verification of license would not be required if the volunteer practitioner has not provided care, treatment, and services under the disaster privileges.

(f) Additionally, attempt to obtain the practitioner's National Practitioner Data Bank report and OIG status via Internet. If these services are not available, will verify this information as soon as possible.

(g) Create a credentials file for each practitioner with his or her credentials and relevant information.

(h) Provider Resources will forward the Emergency Privileges form and supporting data to the Medical Director of the Emergency Department and the highest-ranking administrative officer, or his or her designee for review. The highest-ranking administrative officer, or his or her designee, may grant disaster privileges on a case-by-case basis at his or her discretion.
(i) If the highest-ranking administrative officer, or his or her designee, grants disaster privileges, Provider Resources will provide the volunteer practitioner with an identification badge.

(j) The highest-ranking administrative officer, or his or her designee, will take the approved volunteer practitioner to where the hospital needs him or her.

3. Provider Resources, or its designee, will assign the volunteer practitioner to a current member of the medical staff of Chambersburg Hospital who will oversee the professional practice of the volunteer LIPs.

4. The organization makes a decision (based on information obtained regarding the professional practice of the volunteer practitioner) within 72 hours related to the continuation of the disaster privileges initially granted.

   All disaster privileges will immediately terminate once the disaster is over.

5. The Quality/Risk Management Department will maintain a list of all patients treated by the volunteer provider in the volunteer practitioner's Quality Management file.