Description of Service

Alberta Health Services (AHS) Medical Staff who are specialists in Nephrology or Pediatric Nephrology and have privileges in AHS facilities provide safe, high-quality care for patients across the Province. Nephrology is the medical subspecialty concerned with the care of patients with kidney disease and disorders of fluid and electrolyte metabolism.¹

For a full list of clinical privileges, please refer to the attached Nephrology Clinical Privilege List on page 5.

Zone Medical Staff Organization

Zone	Department(s)	Section(s)	
South	Medicine	Medicine	
Calgary	Internal Medicine; Pediatrics	Nephrology; Pediatric Nephrology	
Central	Internal Medicine	Nephrology	
Edmonton	Medicine; Child Health	Nephrology; Pediatric Nephrology	
North	Hospital Health	Internal Medicine	

College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA) Requirements

The CPSA grants practice permits but does not grant any additional practice approvals for specific procedures or specialties beyond those stated on the practice permit.

A practice permit from the CPSA does not guarantee that an individual will be granted for an AHS Medical Staff appointment or privileges. It is AHS's role and responsibility to screen and evaluate the qualifications of Practitioners in relation to the specific procedures and patient care services they will be providing at specific sites before granting an appointment and clinical privileges.

Physicians with expertise in a particular area of practice may require a CPSA approval process separate from the CPSA licensure and AHS privileging process for specific services. These services typically fall into the non-invasive diagnostics group. Please refer to the CPSA website

¹ Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada – Objectives of Training in the Subspecialty of Nephrology (2012)

for a list of practice areas requiring approval http://www.cpsa.ca/accreditation/physician-approvals/.

Minimum Education and Training Requirements

The "Minimum Education and Training Requirements" set out in the AHS List of Nephrology Clinical Privileges are as follows:

1. Appropriate licensure with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta,

AND

- 2. Credentials satisfactory to the Zone Clinical Department Head (ZCDH), Zone Application Review Committee (ZARC) and/or the Chief Medical Officer (CMO), including:
- 3.
- o Successful completion of a Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) accredited residency program in Internal Medicine or Pediatrics followed by two years of approved residency in Adult or Pediatric Nephrology; OR
- o Equivalent combination of education, training and experience satisfactory to the ZCDH, ZARC and/or CMO.

These are minimum requirements. The ZCDH, ZARC and/or the CMO may determine that additional education, training or experience is required. The ZCDH, ZARC and/or CMO may also determine that an individual has developed competency in a particular area, without having completed a fellowship in that area, through an equivalent combination of education, training and experience. In addition to the minimum requirements listed above, additional education, training, experience and certification may be required to be granted certain clinical privileges. These specifics are identified in the attached clinical privileges list.

Privileges Requiring Additional Education, Training and Experience

The list identifies privileges that require additional specialty training and documentation of evidence that the practitioner has received recognized postgraduate education, training or an appropriate level of experience to safely provide the service.

Clinical Privilege List and Medical Staff Bylaws

The AHS Medical Staff Bylaws state that the clinical privileges granted to a Practitioner define the diagnostic or therapeutic Procedures or other Patient care services a Practitioner is deemed competent to perform, the Facility(ies) and Zone(s) within which the Practitioner is eligible to provide care and services to Patients; and the specified AHS Programs and Professional

services...that the Practitioner is eligible to access.²

No recommendation on Clinical Privileges is meant to prevent any licensed Practitioner from performing any medical procedure on any person in an emergency situation where failure to perform that procedure may result in death or serious injury or harm to the person.³

Nothing in this document or the attached List of Clinical Privileges replaces the processes or requirements set out in the AHS Medical Staff Bylaws and Rules. This document and its attachments are intended to supplement and more fully describe the application of the AHS Bylaws and Rules in the context of Nephrology Clinical Privileges.

The AHS Medical Staff Bylaws and Rules can be found on the AHS website at http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/7086.asp.

Interpretation of the Clinical Privilege List

The following list describes and reflects the categories/types of patient services included in the scope of Nephrology privileges available to members of the AHS Medical Staff with the necessary and required education, training, and experience. When granted, Nephrology privileges include the capability to perform the noted procedure using various techniques and approaches as appropriate for the patient, unless a specific technique or approach is specified. The Zone Clinical Department Head's recommendation regarding specifics of an individual's privileges and any associated techniques will be provided to ZARC and the CMO for their consideration.

The Medical Staff Rules define the minimum review period for the privilege list.⁴

Sites of Clinical Privileges

A delineation of the sites of clinical activity is a required component of clinical privileges (AHS Medical Staff Bylaws, 3.2.1(c) and 3.2.7).

Clinical privileges will reflect the site (or sites) where the Physician physically provides the clinical services. A Physician privileged in the specialty may have clinical privileges at multiple sites if they travel to multiple sites to provide clinical services as approved by the ZCDH, ZARC, and/or the CMO. Privileges granted may only be exercised at the site(s) and/or setting(s) that have sufficient space, equipment, staffing, and other resources required to support the privilege.

² AHS Medical Staff Bylaws 3.0.2

³ AHS Medical Staff Rules 3.4.3(e)

⁴ AHS Medical Staff Rules, 3.4.3(f)(ii)).

	Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D	Site E
Privilege 1					
Privilege 2					
Privilege 3					
Privilege 4					

The table above indicates what privileges are available at which sites:

- Privilege 1 is available at all sites
- Privilege 2 is available at sites A, C,D and E
- Privilege 3 is available at sites A and C
- Privilege 4 is available at sites B, D and E

Proctoring Requirements

The Zone Clinical Department Head may determine that a period of proctoring is required in certain situations. Proctoring can be defined as follows:

"The term *proctor* is often used to mean observe, supervise, mentor, monitor, or directly assess...*proctoring* reflects a process by which an individual is reviewed and evaluated over time to ensure competence, and proctor identifies the person performing the assessment." *The Medical Staff Handbook, A Guide to Joint Commission Standards, Second Edition.*

"Proctoring is a process of direct observation that allows for the focused evaluation of current physician competency in carrying out actual clinical care and takes both cognitive and procedural abilities into account. If the proctor observes potential or imminent patient harm during the proctoring process, it may be ethically appropriate for him or her to intervene." Proctoring and FPPE: Strategies for Verifying Physician Competence, Second Edition. Robert J. Marder, MD, CMSL, and Mark A. Smith, MD, MBA, CMSL.

Clinical Privilege List

Nephrology Privileges			
Gen	eral Clinical Privileges		
	Admitting privilege (includes; assessment, evaluating, consulting, diagnosing, treating and surgical assistance)		
	Consultation privilege (Includes; conduct history and assessment for the purpose of making recommendations related to care and treatment)		
Clin	ical Privileges		
	Acute and chronic hemodialysis		
	Acute and chronic peritoneal dialysis		
	Continuous renal replacement therapy		
	Coordination of end-stage renal care including conservative care pathway and palliative support		
	Exteriorization of peritoneal dialysis catheters		
	Hemofiltration		
	Immunosuppression for kidney disease, auto-immune disease, or kidney transplantation		
	Management of home hemodialysis		
	Management of renal transplant recipient and/or donor patient		
	Multidisciplinary care for chronic kidney disease		
	Native percutaneous renal biopsy and aspiration		
	Transplant percutaneous renal biopsy		
	Performance and interpretation of urinalysis		
	Placement of central venous catheters		
	Placement of peritoneal dialysis catheters		

	Preoperative evaluation and preparation for transplantation					
	Plasmapheresis					
Extended Privileges: the below listed privileges require education, training and experience in addition to the successful completion of the Fellowship/Residency program.						
Clinical Privilege		Required additional education, training, and experience				
	Diagnostic renal sonography	Demonstrated training and experience to satisfy ZCDH.				
	Point of care ultrasound	Demonstrated training and experience to satisfy ZCDH.				
	Removal of hemodialysis catheters	Demonstrated training and experience to satisfy ZCDH.				
L						

☐ Preoperative evaluation and preparation for living kidney donation