

**A-0363**

**(Rev.78, Issued: 12-22-11, Effective/Implementation: 12-22-11)**

**[The bylaws must:]**

**§482.22(c)(6) - Include criteria for determining the privileges to be granted to individual practitioners and a procedure for applying the criteria to individuals**

**requesting privileges. For distant-site physicians and practitioners requesting privileges to furnish telemedicine services under an agreement with the hospital, the criteria for determining privileges and the procedure for applying the criteria are also subject to the requirements in §482.12(a)(8) and (a)(9), and §482.22(a)(3) and (a)(4).**

### **Interpretive Guidelines §482.22(c)(6)**

All patient care is provided by or in accordance with the orders of a physician or practitioner who meets the medical staff criteria and procedures for the privileges granted, who has been granted privileges in accordance with those criteria by the governing body, and who is working within the scope of those granted privileges.

Privileges are granted by the hospital's governing body to individual practitioners based on the medical staff's review of that individual practitioner's qualifications and the medical staff's recommendations for that individual practitioner to the governing body. However, in the case of telemedicine physicians and practitioners providing telemedicine services under an agreement, the governing body has the option of having the medical staff rely upon the credentialing and privileging decisions of the distant-site hospital or telemedicine entity with which the hospital has entered into an agreement. When the governing body has exercised this option, the medical staff's bylaws must include a provision allowing the medical staff to rely upon the credentialing and privileging decisions of a distant-site hospital or telemedicine entity when that distant-site hospital or entity is required under the terms of its agreement with the hospital to employ a credentialing and privileging process that conforms to the provisions of §482.12(a)(8) and (a)(9), and §482.22(a)(3) and (a)(4).

### **Survey Procedures §482.22(c)(6)**

- Verify that the medical staff bylaws contain criteria for granting, withdrawing, and modifying clinical privileges to individual physicians and practitioners of the medical staff and that a procedure exists for applying these criteria.
- In the case of telemedicine physicians and practitioners providing telemedicine services under an agreement with the hospital where the hospital's governing body has opted to have the medical staff rely upon the credentialing and privileging decisions of the distant-site hospital or telemedicine entity, verify that the bylaws include a provision permitting such reliance.
- Verify that physicians and practitioners who provide care to patients are working within the scope of the privileges granted by the governing body.