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To: All Clinical Staff

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Date: July 25, 2016

(Revised from March 8, 2012 agreement)

Subject: Admissions Criteria for the Surgery Service

These guidelines are to be used in determining the most appropriate service to which a patient shall be admitted. Clinical circumstances may, on occasion, require the responsible ED attending to make an admission decision that overrides these guidelines.

Patients with the following diagnoses are to be admitted to the Surgery Service:

- Lower GI Bleed
- Pancreatitis with gallstones or if the patient requires ICU admission
- Diverticulitis (with or without abscess)
- Appendicitis
- Bowel obstruction
- Cholecystitis (including acalculous cholecystitis)
- Cholangitis/Choledocholithiasis
- Liver Abscess
- Post-operative complication (including DVT) within 30 days of surgery goes to the service that operated on the patient
- Animal bites
 - except upper extremity – distal to the elbow – goes to service covering hand
- Frostbite/burns
 - except upper extremity – distal to the elbow – goes to service covering hand
- Incarcerated hernia
- Spontaneous primary pneumothorax
 - Patients with underlying pulmonary diseases such as COPD, TB, PCP or other HIV-related illnesses go to the medical service
- Perirectal abscess that requires admission. Many can be operated on as an ambulatory surgery case.
- Cellulitis
 - Alternates with the medical service
 - Hand service admission if cellulitis involves area below the elbow