



## Ohio Administrative Code

### Rule 3701-22-44 Personnel/staffing - open-heart surgery service.

Effective: August 31, 2025

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(A) The medical director of the adult open-heart surgery service will be board-certified in thoracic surgery. The medical director will:

(1) Be a physician certified or eligible for certification by the American board of thoracic surgery, the American board of surgery or, in lieu of board certification:

(a) A physician who is board-certified by a foreign board and is eligible to take the examination of an American board of medical specialties recognized board or an American osteopathic association board may serve as medical director of an HCS; or

(b) In accordance with rule 3701-22-19 of the Administrative Code, an HCS may request a waiver from the department of health for physicians who are board-certified by a foreign board who are not eligible to take the examination of an American board of medical specialties recognized board or an American osteopathic association board.

(2) Be responsible for oversight of care in the service;

(3) Be credentialed to provide adult open-heart surgery services at the hospital where the adult open-heart surgery service is located; and

(4) Actively perform open-heart procedures at the open-heart surgery service where they are the medical director.

(B) Each open-heart surgery service will have at least two thoracic surgeons on staff, credentialed to perform open-heart procedures at the hospital who actively perform open-heart procedures at the hospital. The medical director of the open- heart surgery service may be counted as one of the two required thoracic surgeons.



(C) Each open-heart surgery service will have competent and qualified staff available, including but not limited to:

(1) Surgical assistants to assist the surgeon. A surgical assistant may be a resident, another physician, or a specially trained surgical assistant;

(2) Cardiac anesthesiologists with special training in the anesthetic and supportive requirements of open-heart surgery;

(3) Nursing staff that will include appropriate numbers of scrub nurses or technicians and a circulating nurse based on the needs of the surgeons and the patient. A minimum of two staff, including a circulating nurse and one scrub nurse or technician will be present for each procedure. Nursing staff will be trained in cardiac surgical operating room procedures;

(4) A cardiac surgical intensive care unit will be staffed at the appropriate nurse patient ratio to commensurate with the acuity of the patients and the amount of time following surgery that such care is necessary. Cardiac surgical intensive care nurses will be advanced cardiac life support (ACLS) certified and have specialized training to develop the theoretical knowledge and clinical skills required for the care of cardiac surgical patients; and

(5) A minimum of two perfusionists who are graduates of an accredited cardiovascular perfusion or perfusion technology program or have equivalent training and experience.

(D) In addition to the requirements of paragraph (C) of this rule, an open-heart surgery service will have appropriate staff available, including but not limited to:

(1) Pharmacists;

(2) Dietitians;

(3) Respiratory therapists;

(4) Physical therapists;



(5) Cardiac rehabilitation therapists; and

(6) Social workers.

(E) Staffing requirements of this rule may be met by individuals with equivalent or greater qualifications if the replacement's scope of practice encompasses the duties of the required staff.