Article I: Mission

The Nursing Research Council will identify and facilitate evidence-based practice issues and mentor front-line nursing staff to understand, evaluate, and conduct nursing research.

Support process of conducting nursing research at STPH

Article II: Purpose

The purpose of the Nursing Research Council is to:

- Educate and mentor staff nurses in research and evidence-based practice activities.
- Use current literature to influence change of administrative and clinical practice
- Maintain a record of all nursing research projects conducted at STPH.
- Review and approve all nursing research conducted at STPH.
- Establish the link between evidence based practice and research.
- Increase STPH nursing research visibility within the institution as well as regionally and nationally.
- Review research proposals and Institutional Review Board applications. Issue letters of support as necessary. Studies will only be conducted once approved by outside IRB process
- Identify potential nursing research funding sources.

Article III: Membership

Section 1

Membership shall include the following:

- Nursing Director
- (1) STPH Clinical Educator
- (1) BSN/ Masters/Doctorally prepared (or currently seeking) with interest in Research
- Other facility resources as necessary
• (1) Representative from each group as studies necessitate:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surgical Services</th>
<th>CCU/ICU/ED</th>
<th>Med-Surg/Rehab/Telemetry</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mat Child/CWC</td>
<td>Cardiology</td>
<td>Home Health/Hospice</td>
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<td>Infection Control</td>
<td>OPP</td>
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All areas represented will also elect an alternate.

Ad Hoc members:

Other healthcare professionals involved in clinical practice projects will be invited to attend meetings when projects/requests are being reviewed for approval or when research issues affect practice within that setting.

Section 2

Membership Privileges

a. Each Council member/Clinical service area shall have only one vote (if there is more than one nurse per clinical service area on the Council, there is still one voting member per service).
b. Ad Hoc members will have no voting privileges.
c. Appointments to the Research Council will be for a minimum of a one (1) year period.
d. Annual membership term is from January through December. New members will be brought in for orientation prior to year end.
e. Members will be responsible for coordinating meetings or reporting activities and disseminating minutes/information to their respective unit or clinical area representatives.

Article IV: Officers

Section 1

a. The Council Chair and Co-Chair shall be appointed. The Chair will be a doctorally prepared nurse preferably or masters prepared with an initial three (3) year term, appointed by the Nursing Advisory Board (NAB)
b. The Director serves as a resource and advises the council on issues that impact the goals and objectives of patient care services and the hospital as a whole.

Section 2

Duties of the Officers:

a. The Council Chair/Co-Chair is responsible for reporting to the Nurse Manager Committee and the NAB on a quarterly basis.
b. Schedule and facilitate regular meetings.
c. Develop an agenda for each meeting.
d. Ensure that meeting minutes are maintained and disseminated.
e. Promote research activities in nursing newsletters and on the Nursing Web page.
Article V: Committees

A task force of Ad Hoc committee members shall be formed at the discretion of the Council to meet the needs of the Council or the hospital as a whole.

Meetings:

a. The Research Council will meet quarterly as needed and called by the chair.
b. Members must attend at least 85% of yearly meetings to retain their Council membership. If this is not met, membership will revert to the alternate.
c. Inability to attend a meeting must be clearly communicated to the Chair in advance.
d. It is the responsibility of the Council member to obtain information from the missed meeting and disseminate this to the appropriate groups.

Article VI: Quorum

51% of the voting members of the Research Council members shall constitute a quorum for all meetings. A consensus decision making process is preferred; when necessary, a motion will be considered approved when passed by a majority vote.

Article VII: Amendments

a. This charter may be amended as recommended by the Council.
b.
d. The Nursing Executive Council shall review proposed amendments for final approval.