

# National Practitioner Data Bank: Partnering to Protect Patients Clinical Privileges Reporting

#### **Sherry Vorabhanda & Matt Wiley**

Division of Practitioner Data Bank (DPDB) Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW) Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)





#### **Overview**

- Review the Law and Regulations
- Clinical Privileges Reporting Topics
  - Surrendering While Under Investigation
  - Professional Review Actions Lasting >30 days
  - Resources





#### The Law

"Each entity which...

(A) takes a professional review action that adversely affects the clinical privileges of a physician for a period longer than 30 days:

(B) accepts the surrender of clinical privileges of a physician...while the physician is under investigation by the entity relating to possible incompetence or improper professional conduct, or...in return for not conducting such an investigation or proceeding..."



-- Title IV of Public Law 99-660



#### The Law

The term "professional review action" means an action or recommendation of a professional review body which is taken or made in the conduct of professional review activity, which is based on the competence or professional conduct of an individual physician (which conduct affects or could affect adversely the health or welfare of a patient or patients), and which affects (or may affect) adversely the clinical privileges, or membership in a professional society, of the physician.

-- Title IV of Public Law 99-660





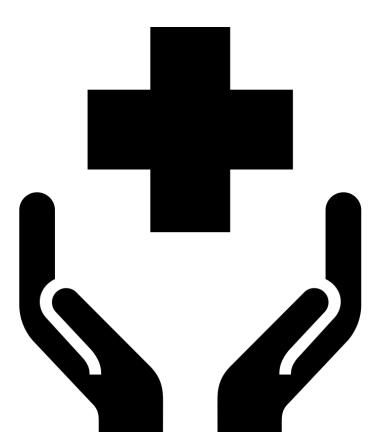
#### The Law

The term "adversely affecting" includes reducing, restricting, suspending, revoking, denying, or failing to renew clinical privileges or membership in a health care entity.

-- Title IV of Public Law 99-660







# To Be Specific, Reportable Actions Include:

- Adverse clinical privileges actions
  >30 days related to professional
  - competence or conduct
- Surrendering privileges while under investigation.

**Must report on**: Physicians and dentists

May report on: Other practitioners





# Surrendering While Under Investigation







#### Investigations

- 1. Definition of term is not controlled by entity's bylaws
- 2. Routine review of a practitioner is *not* an investigation
- 3. Focus must be on a particular practitioner
- 4. Precursor to professional review action
- 5. Ongoing until decision-making authority takes final action





#### Nonrenewals

- Ongoing investigation for possible professional incompetence or conduct
- Failure to renew privileges while under investigation
- Practitioner does not need to be aware of ongoing investigation





#### Withdrawal of Applications

- Ongoing investigation for possible professional incompetence or conduct
- Practitioner applies for renewal of privileges and later voluntarily withdraws application
- Reportable regardless whether practitioner knew of ongoing investigation at time of withdrawal





## Adverse Actions Lasting Longer Than 30 Days







#### **Summary Suspensions**

- In effect or imposed for more than 30 days
- Based on professional competence or conduct that adversely affects or could adversely affect health or welfare of patient
- Result of professional review action





#### **Denials and Restrictions**

- Reportable if greater than 30 days and result of professional review action relating to professional competence or conduct
- Denials of initial applications for privileges reportable
- Restrictions that prevent practitioners from exercising independent judgment reportable





#### Proctoring

- Proctor required in order to freely exercise privileges
- Imposed for more than 30 days
- Based on professional competence or conduct that adversely affects or could adversely affect health or welfare of patient
- Result of professional review action











#### NPDB GUIDE TO REPORTING CLINICAL PRIVILEGES ACTIONS

