PURPOSE:
Based on the current available evidence, there may be some decrement in health care provider performance beyond the age of 70. Accordingly, in the interest of patient safety, a special credentialing process is in order for those providers practicing within the hospital setting who have reached the age of 70 during the calendar year.

SCOPE:
Credentialing for all health care providers aged 70 and above who are practicing within the hospital.

POLICY/PROCEDURE:
Credentialing process would continue on a two-year cycle and would include:

1. Two (2) letters from peers in the same discipline who have close personal observation of the provider and who is specifically tasked to evaluate his/her colleague utilizing a formatted peer reference letter.
2. An Ongoing Professional Practice Evaluation (OPPE) review at all HealthONE facilities where provider is on active staff would be accomplished to ensure there are no professional occurrences that bear closer scrutiny.
3. Completion of the Clinic Services Aging Physician Assessment (CSAPA) and Physical Exam. Substitution of an alternative occupational medicine evaluation and physical exam which are sufficiently comprehensive and similar to the proposed assessment by HealthONE Clinic Services and if acceptable to the Credentials Committee and Medical Executive Committee will be permitted.
4. A Colorado Physicians Health Program (CPHP) evaluation may be requested at any time during the standard credentialing cycle.
5. Should the physician dispute the findings and conclusions on the CSAPA, then the physician will be granted due process during which he/she will be required to produce compelling evidence from a reputable source to support his/her disputation. This will be accomplished within 30 days and will be adjudicated by the Credentials and Medical Executive Committees.

REFERENCES:
2. Draft policy for consideration and discussion by medical staff leadership. Medical Staff Policy on Physical Assessment of Practitioners Over the Age of (n). The Greeley Company.
5. Midwest Eye Care. Doctor Review Committee. Review program for age-related performance (65+ & 70+). Provided by Ted Clarke, M.D., COPIC.