

Dear Medical Staff Colleagues,

There are certainly a lot of changes happening around Heywood! New physicians, advanced practice providers and clinical staff abound. With all of these changes, you may be wondering how to help keep our groups stable and supported. A surefire answer is a “yes” vote to include Advanced Practice Providers (APPs) as voting members at Medical Staff and Medical Executive meetings. But, maybe you have some uncertainty and questions about this. So, who are we as APPs? What are our general personal and professional goals? Why would allowing us to vote make Heywood Hospital a better place for our patients and coworkers?

Advanced Practitioners go through a competitive selection process, rigorous training and continuing education. Although we are sometimes referred to as “mid-level” providers, we do not do our jobs halfway. We are not medical school rejects; in fact, the vast majority of us never applied to medical school. Becoming a Physician Assistant or Nurse Practitioner is a career choice, based on quality of life and personal objectives. We do not intend to take over departments, or usurp our physician leaders.

Advanced Practice Providers are medical staff members. It would be a disservice to us as a hospital to ignore the ideas and objectives of half of our practitioners. We come from diverse medical and personal backgrounds, and can offer different views and modern thinking on medical, technological, ethical and administrative subjects, to name a few.

By our daily practice and personal interactions we hope that we have earned the respect and understanding to justify a “YES” on this vote. Showing us support would solidify the bond between doctors and APPs. We would draw more long term, accomplished and skilled practitioners to this already underserved area. We are confident that by including our votes, you would extend and improve upon the care for which Heywood Hospital is already known.

We look forward to your support in moving our hospital forward.

Sincerely,

Robert Bogdasarian, PA-C
Heywood Hospital Emergency Department