Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement (CJR) Collaborator Selection Criteria

PURPOSE:

Some SCL Health hospitals participate in CMS’s Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement (CJR) program, whereby the hospital assumes risk for lower extremity joint replacement (LEJR) patients treated under MS-DRGs 469 and 470. To successfully assume risk and optimize performance under this episode payment model, the Hospital collaborates closely with orthopedic surgeons and may have a Collaborators agreement in place with an orthopedic physician to share savings within the requirements set forth in 42 CFR Part 510 and participate in quality activities. This policy establishes provider eligibility criteria that must be met prior to entering into Collaborator Agreements.

DEFINITIONS:

Collaborator – a provider that has entered into a collaborator agreement with Participant Hospital.

Collaborator Agreement – a written agreement between a Participant Hospital and a CJR Collaborator for the sole purpose of making gainsharing payments under the CJR Episode Payment Model.

Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement (CJR) – a bundled payment program for selected hospitals aimed at improving the care of Medicare Beneficiaries undergoing lower extremity joint replacement surgery while lowering the 90-day episode costs. (42 CFR Part 510).

Participant Hospital – a SCL Health inpatient prospective payment system hospital participating in the CJR episode payment model (EPM).

POLICY:

1. Participant Hospital will enter into Collaborator Agreements only with orthopedic surgeons that meet the following requirements.

   a. General Requirements
      i. Possess a valid and unrestricted license to practice medicine in the state where Participant Hospital is located.
      ii. Be a credentialed member of the medical staff (i.e., meet all the requirements included in the medical staff bylaws) and maintain a clinical practice office in or around the campus of the Participant Hospital.
      iii. Be eligible to participate in the Medicare program.
      iv. Be insured against professional liability at a level not less than the level of coverage required by Participant Hospital’s medical staff bylaws.
      v. Must not have opted out of the Medicare program.

   b. Program-Specific Requirements
      i. Collaborator Agreements will be offered to orthopedic surgeons performing elective total knee, hip, or ankle replacement surgery.
      ii. Orthopedic surgeons participating in Collaborator Agreements may be employed by an SCL Health affiliate or independent.
iii. Orthopedic surgeons participating in Collaborator Agreements must agree to participate in and contribute to the Participant Hospital’s care redesign strategies.

iv. Orthopedic surgeons participating in Collaborator Agreements must sign a written CJR Collaborator Agreement that will include parameters and metrics related to quality, care provision, and savings payment triggers appropriate for the services provided.

v. Orthopedic surgeons entering into Collaborator Agreements must have (or their practice entity must have) a compliance program that includes oversight of the Collaborator Agreement and compliance with CJR requirements.

2. Participation in a Collaborator Agreement is voluntary and without penalty for non-participation.

3. Participation in a Collaborator Agreement will not be based on volume or value of referrals or business otherwise generated by the Collaborator.