

## *Standards of Practice Committees*

The **Standards of Practice Committees** are unit-based committees within the Shared Governance model. These committees have members elected by their peers from every level of nursing and every shift worked.

The Nurse Director of the unit will serve as an ad-hoc member of the Standards of Practice Committee and attend the meetings upon invitation by the committee Chair or Vice-Chair.

The Standards of Practice Committee will meet at least 9 of 12 months in a calendar year and are held approximately two (2) weeks prior to the Patient Care Council meeting to allow time for investigation of issues presented at the Standards of Practice Committee.

The Standards of Practice Committee will address issues related to bedside nursing practice. If it is determined that issues are unit specific and will not require change in general nursing policy, the committee can determine course of action at the unit level and report to the Nurse Director. If the issue affects more than one nursing unit and/or will require change in general nursing policy, the Chair or Vice-Chair will take the issue to the Patient Care Council. The Nurse Director may also refer patient care issues to the committee for review and assistance in developing plans of corrective action. The Chair of the Standards of Practice Committee will be responsible for communicating with the Patient Care Council, the Nurse Director and the staff regarding the outcomes/actions of the committee meetings.