Background and Significance: Nursing Peer Review is essential in evaluating the quality of nursing practice. The process validates that care is evidence-based and aligned with standards. The ANA states it is essential for an organization to value a culture of safety through analysis of errors in order to eliminate the reoccurrence of untoward events.

Purpose: The purpose of the Nursing Peer Review Committee is to review cases to assess the quality of nursing care. The committee focuses primarily on patient safety, clinical quality and nursing responsiveness within the clinical environment. It provides a formal mechanism to promote performance improvement in nursing through the review of practice issues, concerns or complaints.

Process: The committee consists of nurses in non-management positions representing various specialty areas across CSM. Cases may be brought to the committee for review from the patient event reporting system, Medical Staff Departments/Institutes, various performance improvement teams, managers and/or staff. All Nursing Peer Review processes are confidential. The focus of the process is on the improvement of individual nursing practices. Cases are reviewed and analyzed using the Healthcare Performance Improvement (HPI) system for classification of errors.

Results/Outcomes: The committee has identified trends related to gaps in nursing practice. Action plans have been created based on these trends. Finding and lessons learned are communicated. Actions are taken including mentoring and education to improve practice and performance.