# DIVISION SCOPE OF SERVICE

**Division:** CONTINENTAL  
**Classification:** SPEECH PATHOLOGIST  
**Applicant Name:**

**Speech Pathologist:**  
The Speech Pathologist must have equivalent qualifications, competence and function in the same role as employed individuals performing the same or similar services at the facility, as defined by facility job description.

**Definition of Care or Service:**  
The Speech Pathologist applies principles, methods, and procedures for the prevention, identification, evaluation, treatment, consultation, habilitation, rehabilitation, instruction, and research, relative to the development and disorders of human communication; to related oral and pharyngeal competencies; and to behavior related to disorders of human communication. Scope of service may include:

- Responsible for evaluating patients, diagnosing disorders
- Responsible for planning, implementing and modifying treatment programs according to age appropriate needs
- Involved in the education of patient, family, caregivers, and staff regarding the patient’s communication, cognitive skills, and swallowing abilities
- Demonstrates Clinical and Service excellence behaviors to include code of HCA conduct core fundamentals in daily interactions with patients, families, co-workers and physicians.

**Setting(s):**  
- Healthcare facilities including but not limited to hospitals, outpatient treatment facilities, imaging centers, and physician practices

**Supervision:**  
- Indirect supervision by Speech Therapy department director, site manager or designee

**Evaluator:** Speech Therapy department director or designee in conjunction with supervising physician or licensed independent practitioner

**Tier Level:** 2

**Qualifications:**
- Master’s degree or Doctorate in Speech Language Pathology from an accredited college or university.
- Certified through American Speech Language and Hearing Association (ASHA) and Colorado License in Speech Language-Pathology or
- A Clinical Fellowship, verification of initiation of certification through ASHA
  - Must complete Clinical Fellow Year (CFY) within 15 months of hire
- American Heart Association health care provider BLS Certification

**State Requirements:**
- Valid Colorado license in Speech Language-Pathology

**Experience:**
- 1 year experience as a Speech Pathologist
- CFY (Clinical Fellowship Year) candidates accepted.

**Competencies:**
The Speech Pathologist will demonstrate:
- Accurate patient information review and evaluation
  - Uses at least two ways to identify patients before treating or performing a procedure
  - Verifies that the requested procedure correlates with the patient’s clinical history, presentation and physician order

Revised 7/25/2017
DIVISION SCOPE OF SERVICE

- Accesses the patient medical record appropriately
- Documents in the medical record according to the facility standard / policy
  - Appropriate diagnostic examination results
    - Performs examinations to comply with applicable protocols and guidelines
    - Utilizes non-invasive study technique as indicated by the examination, according to established facility policy and procedures under state law
    - Notifies the appropriate health provider when immediate treatment is necessary, based on procedural findings and patient conditions
      - Recognizes the need for an urgent report and takes appropriate action
    - Provides a written or oral summary of preliminary findings to the physician
  - Patient education and counseling
  - Infection Prevention
    - Practices consistent hand hygiene
    - Uses personal protective equipment (PPE)
    - Required immunizations per Division requirements
    - Complies with Isolation precautions

References:
CFY Fellowship
http://www.asha.org/certification/Clinical-Fellowship/
ASHA
http://www.asha.org/certification/cert-verify/

Applicant Printed Name: _______________________  Signature: _________________________

Company/ Vendor: ____________________________  Date: _________________________