

(b) For purposes of this section, a medical review committee is:

(1) A regulatory board or agency established by State or federal law to license, certify, or discipline any provider of health care;

(2) A committee of the Faculty or any of its component societies or a committee of any other professional society or association composed of providers of health care;

(3) A committee appointed by or established in a local health department for review purposes;

(4) A committee of the medical staff or other committee, INCLUDING ANY RISK MANAGEMENT, CREDENTIALING, OR UTILIZATION REVIEW COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 19-319 OF THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE, of a hospital, [or] related institution, OR ALTERNATIVE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM, if the governing board of the hospital, [or] related institution, OR ALTERNATIVE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM forms and approves the committee or approves the written bylaws under which the committee operates;

(5) Any person, including a professional standard review organization, who contracts with an agency of this State or of the federal government to perform any of the functions listed in subsection (c) of this section; or

(6) Any person who contracts with a provider of health care to perform any of those functions listed in subsection (c) of this section that are limited to the review of services provided by the provider of health care.

(c) For purposes of this section, a medical review committee:

(1) Evaluates and seeks to improve the quality of health care provided by providers of health care;

(2) Evaluates the need for and the level of performance of health care provided by providers of health care;

(3) Evaluates the qualifications, competence, and performance of providers of health care; or

(4) Evaluates and acts on matters that relate to the discipline of any provider of health care.

(d) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the proceedings, records, and files of a medical review committee are not discoverable and are not admissible in evidence in any civil