

(9) A committee appointed by or established in an accredited health occupations school; or

(10) An organization described under § 14-501.1 of this subtitle that contracts with a hospital, related institution, or health maintenance organization to:

(i) Assist in performing the functions listed in subsection (c) of this section; or

(ii) Assist a health maintenance organization in meeting the requirements of Title 19, Subtitle 7 of the Health - General Article, the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), or any other applicable credentialing law or regulation.

(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 action [arising out of matters that are being reviewed and evaluated by the medical review committee].

(2) The proceedings, records, and files of a medical review committee are confidential and are not discoverable and are not admissible in evidence in any civil action arising out of matters that are being reviewed and evaluated by the medical review committee if requested by the following:

(i) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to ensure compliance with the provisions of § 19-319 of the Health - General Article;

(ii) A health maintenance organization to ensure compliance with the provisions of Title 19, Subtitle 7 of the Health - General Article and applicable regulations; or

(iii) A health maintenance organization to ensure compliance with the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) credentialing requirements.

(e) Subsection (d)(1) of this section does not apply to:

(1) A civil action brought by a party to the proceedings of the medical review committee who claims to be aggrieved by the decision of the medical review committee; or