

Creighton University School of Medicine

Medical Education Program Policies

POLICY: Supervision of Medical Students During Clinical Activities

GOVERNING BODY: Educational Program Committee

APPROVAL DATE: 7/23/2019

REVISED DATE: N/A

LCME ACCREDITATION STANDARD REFERENCE: Element 9.2 Faculty Appointments; Element 9.3 Clinical Supervision of Medical Students

PURPOSE

In keeping with the school's combined duties of patient care/safety and education of students in the practice of medicine and in keeping with accreditation requirements, this policy describes the requirements to meet the standard of appropriate supervision in the clinical environment.

POLICY

Supervision of medical student learning experiences is provided throughout required pre-clerkship clinical activities and clerkships by members of the school's faculty.

The medical education program ensures that medical students in clinical learning situations involving patient care are appropriately supervised at all times in order to ensure patient and student safety, that the level of responsibility delegated to the student is appropriate to his or her level of training, and that the activities supervised are within the scope of practice of the supervising health professional.

1. Medical students may not provide care in an unsupervised fashion.
2. Appropriate supervision of students must be provided either by a Creighton School of Medicine faculty or by another licensed health professional supervising an activity within their scope of expertise or practice. Such supervising professionals may include attending physicians, residents, fellows or non-physicians who are overseen in their teaching role by a Creighton School of Medicine faculty.
3. Students may be supervised at one of two broad levels as determined by the supervisor:
 - a. Direct observation: the supervisor is present with the student and the patient.
 - b. Immediately available Indirect Supervision: the supervisor, while not in the presence of the student and/or patient, is immediately available to the learner and/or at the site of care to provide direct supervision
4. Determination of appropriate level of supervision is made by the supervisor, based on many factors, including:
 - a. level of training of the student
 - b. previous experience and skill of the student with the clinical activity and setting
 - c. familiarity of the supervisor with the abilities of the student
 - d. acuity of activity and level of risk to patient

Creighton University School of Medicine

Medical Education Program Policies

POLICY: Supervision of Medical Students During Clinical Activities

GOVERNING BODY: Educational Program Committee

APPROVAL DATE: 7/23/2019

REVISED DATE: N/A

LCME ACCREDITATION STANDARD REFERENCE: Element 9.2 Faculty Appointments; Element 9.3 Clinical Supervision of Medical Students

Students may not perform procedures without direct supervision.

PROCEDURE

The supervisor reviews and independently verifies all student findings, assessments, and care plans. The supervisor is required to review and correct errors on any medical student documentation.

1. It is the supervisor's role to ensure that any non-physicians who are engaged in clinical teaching or supervising any student are acting within their scope of practice.
2. The director of the course is responsible for communicating policies and procedures related to supervision to faculty, non-faculty instructors, and students participating in their curriculum, and for monitoring compliance with the policies and procedures.
3. The director of the course is responsible for developing and communicating standard procedures through which students can report concerns regarding adequate and appropriate supervision of what they may deem a violation of this policy. Procedures may include direct reporting to a clerkship or course director or coordinator and documenting concerns in course evaluations at the end of the course.

SCOPE

All faculty course directors that have clinical experiences within their courses, and all students enrolled within the medical education program.

ADMINISTRATION AND INTERPRETATION

The Educational Program Committee is responsible for the administration of this policy. Please forward questions to the Chair of the Educational Program Committee.

AMENDMENT

This policy may be amended by majority vote of the School of Medicine Medical Education Program Educational Program Committee.