

Medical Student Supervision Policy

PURPOSE:

To ensure patient and student safety through appropriate supervision of, and appropriate delegation of responsibility, to medical students in clinical learning environments.

The policy relates directly to LCME ELEMENT 9.3, which states *“A medical school 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 the student’s level of training, and that the activities supervised are within the scope of practice of the supervising health professional.”*

DEFINITION:

Supervising attending physician refers to a physician who has a faculty appointment at the Stritch School of Medicine, with a license appropriate to his/her specialty of practice, and be supervising the medical student within that scope of practice, and to the appropriate level of student responsibility.

POLICY:

The Stritch School of Medicine requires that medical students will be supervised at all times while participating in clinical activities.

All medical students engaged in a clinical experience must be assigned to a supervising attending physician who then has primary responsibility for their supervision.

Supervising attending physicians to whom medical students are assigned may engage resident physicians, fellows and other healthcare team members in educational activities but are responsible for (1) ensuring that the level of supervision is appropriate for the student level of responsibility; (2) ensuring that the supervision is within the supervisor’s scope of practice; (3) ensuring ready availability to the student to address any issues or concerns that might arise; (4) monitoring the quality of medical student supervision on the given clinical activity to ensure student and patient safety; (5) ensuring that SSOM educational objectives are met.

Medical students must identify themselves to patients as “Medical Student” or “Student Doctor” working under an identified supervising physician. Medical students must wear a SSOM identification badge at all times which is obtained through the Office of Medical Education.

Students may perform History and Physical examinations at the supervising physician’s discretion. Any order authored by a medical student can only be carried out when signed by a supervising physician. All procedures performed by medical students require supervision by a physician.

All medical students will be provided information regarding the Medical Student Supervision Policy and will be required to complete Loyola University Health System and Trinity Health Mandatory Annual Compliance Requirements.

Third year medical students will not be allowed to start clinical clerkship activities without first completing required third-year orientation activities and documentation required by the Office of Medical Education.

MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE:

Clerkship directors are responsible for monitoring the quality of supervision of students within their discipline-specific clerkship. Patient Centered Medicine Course Directors are responsible for monitoring the quality of supervision of students engaged in preceptor environments. Concerns identified by students regarding supervision are addressed by respective course/clerkship directors who may invoke the Assistant Dean for Clinical Development, Assistant Dean for Clinical Transformation, and/or the Vice-Dean for Education.

Reviewed by:	Central Curricular Authority
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