

## **Policy Title: Clinical Supervision of Medical Students**

**Policy Number** (relate to LCME Element as applicable): UCF COM Policy 9.3.1

**Applies to:** Applies to all medical students at the University of Central Florida College of Medicine (UCF COM).

**Date:** 12/17/2021

### **1.0 Purpose:**

This policy relates 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.”

### **2.0 Policy Statement:**

The medical school is committed to the safety of patients and students throughout the 4-year College of Medicine curriculum. All supervising health care professionals must have faculty appointments in the College of Medicine; many resident physicians have appointments by the college as resident instructors, and the residency program director is responsible for ensuring residents act within their scope of practice if they do not have a resident instructor appointment. The level of direct and indirect supervision will be commensurate with the level of observation/participation responsibility assigned to the student. At all times, there will be timely access to, and site-of-care availability of the supervising health care professional. The supervising faculty will at all times be physically present within the hospital or other site of patient care.

Levels of supervision—adapted from the ACGME classification—are defined as follows:

- a. Direct Supervision, with supervising attending or resident physician physically present.** The supervising attending or resident physician is physically present with the medical student and the patient and is prepared to take over the provision of patient care if/as needed.
- b. Indirect Supervision, with supervising attending or resident physician available.** Direct observation may be provided by a health care professional who is physically present with the medical student and patient. The supervising attending or resident is physically present within the hospital or other site of patient care and is immediately available to provide direct supervision. The supervising attending or resident physician must have privileges or authorization to perform the procedure being supervised. The supervising attending or resident physician determines when a student is competent to move from direct to indirect supervision considering the level of training of the student and previous experience, demonstrated competency and maturity, acuity of activity, and level of risk to patient ensuring the safety and comfort of the patient. The supervising attending or resident physician must have privileges or authorization to perform the procedure being supervised. The supervising attending or resident physician determines that a student is competent to move from direct to indirect supervision considering the level of training of the student and previous experience, demonstrated competency and maturity, acuity of activity, and level of risk to patient ensuring the safety and comfort of the patient.

### 3.0 Definitions:

Clinical supervision is defined as a licensed health care professional allowing a learner progressive responsibility for patient care.

### 4.0 Responsibilities:

The assistant deans for medical education, and module and clerkship directors, are responsible for adherence to this policy.

### 5.0 Monitoring/Procedures:

- To ensure medical student attainment of necessary clinical skills and experience during the 4-year College of Medicine curriculum, supervisors will allow progressive responsibility for patient care while providing either direct supervision or indirect supervision with direct supervision immediately available.

By graduation, medical students must be able to perform certain professional activities – such as gathering a history and performing a physical or mental examination, prioritizing a differential diagnosis, documenting a clinical encounter, etc. – without direct supervision. However, medical students cannot do any medical or surgical procedure without the direct supervision of the attending or supervising resident physician.

Orientation Module” that provides guidance on teaching and assessing these 13 EPAs.

### 6.0 Related Policies:

None

### 7.0 Key Search Words:

Clinical supervision		

### 8.0 Revision History:

Version	Date Approved	Modifications
V1	8/26/2016	Original
V2	10/21/2016	Additional information on monitoring and responsibilities.
V3	9/15/2017	Clarified clinical supervision of medical students and level of responsibility.
V4	12/17/2021	Clarified clinical supervision of medical students.

### 9.0 References:

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**Responsible Office:** Associate Dean, Faculty and Academic Affairs

**Policy Contact:** Assistant Dean, Undergraduate Medical Education

**Supersedes:** Clinical Supervision Policy V2