

Attachment 5.4.1



Student Patient Care Supervision Policy

DOCUMENT TITLE:	Student Patient Care Supervision Policy
APPROVAL DATE:	TBD
NEW OR REVISION	New
EFFECTIVE DATE:	TBD
SCOPE/APPLICABILITY:	All IllinoisCOM Students Participating in Patient Care as Part of Required Educational Activities, to Include Telemedicine
RESPONSIBLE OFFICE:	Department of Academic Affairs
LAST AUDITED:	

PURPOSE

The proposed IllinoisCOM curriculum includes required clinical experiences in a variety of clinical settings. This policy outlines the expectation that students participate in patient care under supervision to a level appropriate for the training and experience of the student.

DEFINITIONS

- **Supervising physician:** Credentialed clinical faculty present to provide supervision and education in a clinical setting. Also known as the clinical preceptor.
- **Supervision levels**
 - Direct physician supervision present: The supervising physician is present in the room from beginning to end of a procedure or during provision of patient care.
 - Direct physician supervision available: The supervising physician is present in the office or on grounds and immediately available to provide assistance or direction throughout the procedure or during provision of patient care.
- **Alternative Supervisor:** The healthcare provider assigned to supervise a student's clinical activities any time the assigned preceptor is not physically available to the student.

POLICY

- First and second year (OMSI and OMSII) IllinoisCOM students will be supervised at all times at the Direct Physician Supervision Present level.
- Third and fourth year (OMSIII and OMSIV) IllinoisCOM students will be supervised at a level appropriate to the clinical scenario and the student's experience. Many tasks and scenarios will require supervision at the Direct Physician Supervision Present level. Other procedures, encounters or scenarios may be supervised at the Direct Physician Supervision Available level.



- Only the Supervising Physician after direct observation of the student in the clinical setting may determine the requisite level of supervision appropriate to the clinical setting and scenario.
- The Supervising Physician may supervise procedures only within their scope of practice and for which they hold privileges.
- OMSIII and OMSIV students on clerkship assignments must be assigned an Alternative Supervisor any time the supervising physician (preceptor) may not be physically present with a student.

PROCEDURES

- IllinoisCOM students in the clinical setting must have physician supervision at the level appropriate for their experience and training. Specific supervision must be considered for the following:
 - Patient interactions
 - Medical students must obtain appropriate patient consent before engaging in any patient care or telemedicine activities.
 - Students must maintain strict confidentiality and abide by all HIPAA regulations and institutional policies regarding the protection of patient privacy and data security.
 - Documentation and Billing
 - Medical students are not permitted to independently document patient encounters or submit claims for reimbursement.
 - Telemedicine
 - Medical students are only permitted to engage in telemedicine activities under the direct supervision of a licensed attending physician or clinical faculty member.
 - All medical students will receive training on the appropriate use of telemedicine technologies, including videoconferencing platforms, remote patient monitoring devices, and telehealth applications.
 - Professional Conduct
 - Medical students must maintain professionalism and ethical conduct during all patient care activities.
 - Students must adhere to the University's and clinical site's code of conduct, dress code, and other policies governing professional behavior.
- Compliance and monitoring
 - The Department of Academic Affairs and the Office of Clinical Affairs will oversee the implementation and compliance with this policy. Regular assessments and audits may be conducted to ensure proper supervision of medical students in all clinical settings.
 - Training related to this policy and its procedures will be facilitated during completion of the IllinoisCOM Onboarding course for faculty and staff.
 - Training related to this policy and its procedures will be facilitated at multiple timepoints along the educational trajectory for students, including IllinoisCOM New Student Orientation, OMSII Student Orientation, Clinical Education Orientation, and specific training that occurs at our affiliated clinical training sites.
- Alternative Supervisors
 - IllinoisCOM student participation in all clerkship (OMSIII or OMSIV) activities will be under the supervision of licensed physicians (preceptor).
 - A supervising physician must be available for supervision, consultation, and teaching at all times an IllinoisCOM student is present.



- Students must be assigned an Alternative Supervisor any time the supervising physician (preceptor) may not be physically present with a student.
- The Supervising Physician (preceptor) retains full responsibility for the supervision of the medical students assigned to the medical rotation and must ensure his/her alternative designee(s) is prepared for their roles for supervision of medical students.

RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

- Office of Clinical Affairs
- Senior Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs
- Supervising Physicians

