

**UC Riverside, School of Medicine Policies and Procedures****Policy Title:** Policy on Clinical Supervision of Medical Students During Curricular Activities**Policy Number:** 950-06-029

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Associate Dean for Clinical Medical Education
<b>Responsible Office:</b>	Office of Undergraduate Medical Education
<b>Origination Date:</b>	07/21/2021
<b>Date of Revision:</b>	
<b>Scope:</b>	All Medical Students

**I. Policy Summary****A. Purpose**

To ensure safety of patients and learners, and a supportive environment for student learning and growth in the clinical setting.

**B. Overview**

The faculty of the UCR SOM recognize that active involvement in clinical learning situations is essential for medical students' learning and professional growth. UCR SOM will provide curricular supervision of medical students in all clinical areas to ensure quality education as well as patient and student safety. In keeping with accreditation requirements and with our combined duties to patient care/safety and education of students in the practice of medicine, this policy describes the requirements to meet the standard of appropriate supervision in the clinical environment.

**C. Related LCME Standards**

9.2: Faculty Appointments

9.3: Clinical Supervision of Medical Students

**II. Principles**

At the UCR SOM, we value the role of learners in the provision of excellent clinical care. We also embrace the educational principle of graded responsibility to maximally support learners in their development of clinical expertise. We believe that appropriate supervision is also critical to performing assessments of the learner and providing meaningful feedback.

**III. Standards**

Element 9.3 of the Liaison Committee on Medical Education's *Functions and Structure of a Medical School* (<https://lcme.org/publications/>) 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."

#### **IV. Policy Text**

Students of the UCR School of Medicine must be appropriately supervised when participating in required or elective curricular clinical activities.

- A.** Medical students may not provide care without appropriate supervision.
- B.** All clinicians who supervise UCR medical students must either hold a faculty appointment from the UCR SOM or from another institution with an executed affiliation agreement, or be supervised in their teaching and assessment roles by an individual who holds such a faculty appointment. Clinical supervisors are permitted to supervise clinical activities within their scope of expertise or practice if they are in one of these categories:
  - 1. Physicians or other licensed clinicians with a faculty appointment from the UCR SOM or from another institution with an executed affiliation agreement
  - 2. Fellows or resident physicians
- C.** Students may be supervised at one of two broad levels as determined by the supervisor:
  - 1. Direct supervision: The supervisor is present with the student and the patient throughout the entire clinical encounter.
  - 2. 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.
- D.** Determination of appropriate level of supervision is made by the supervisor, based on many factors, including:
  - 1. Level of training of the student
  - 2. Previous experience and skill of the student with the clinical activity and setting
  - 3. Familiarity of the supervisor with the abilities of the student
  - 4. Acuity of activity and level of risk to patient
- E.** Students may not perform procedures without direct supervision.

#### **V. Procedures**

- A.** The supervisor reviews and independently verifies all student findings, assessments, and care plans, and documents this review.
- B.** It is the faculty supervisor's role to ensure that any non-physicians who are engaged in clinical teaching for supervising any student are acting within their scope of practice.
- C.** The director of the clerkship or course is responsible for communicating policies and procedures related to supervision to faculty and students participating in their curriculum, and for monitoring compliance with the policies and procedures with a report to the relevant governance committee.
- D.** The director of the clerkship or course is responsible for developing and communicating standard procedures through which students can report any concerns they may have for perceived violations of this policy of adequate and appropriate supervision. Procedures for students to report their concerns should include, but are not limited to, the following options:
  - 1. Direct reporting to a clerkship or course director or coordinator

2. Documenting concerns in program evaluation forms completed at the end of the course or clerkship
3. Anonymous reporting (to allow students to safely report mistreatment or a negative learning environment).

**VI. Forms/Instructions**

Please see *Policy for Defining the Requisite Diagnosis and Procedures All UCR SOM Students Must Encounter in the Required Clinical Rotations, 950-06-020.*

**VII. Related Information**

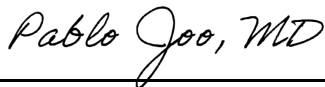
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**VIII. Revision History**

N/A

Approvals:

MEDICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE (08/19/2021)  
COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (10/04/2021)



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