



Student Supervision Policy for RVU Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine

Date Approved: December 11, 2017 **Date Revised/Reviewed:** June 18, 2023

Category: 1.0 **Responsible Office/Dept.:** RVUCOM & MCOM Clinical Deans

Policy Categories: 1.0 – Academic Programs; 2.0 – Operations; 3.0 – Administration and Governance; 4.0 Students and Student Affairs; 5.0 – Utah Campus Specific; 6.0 – Committees and Councils; 7.0 – Archived Policies; 8.0 – Forms; 9.0 – Montana Campus Specific; 010.0 - DEI

I. Purpose and Scope: To provide policy guidelines for the supervision of medical students participating in clinical activities.

II. Policy Statement: All College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM) students at any campus of Rocky Vista University (CO/UT/MT) will have appropriate clinical supervision while participating in all clinical clerkship rotations and all other clinically related activities.

Definitions:

- **Direct Supervision:** the supervising physician or their appropriately licensed designee is physically present with the student and patient, or the supervising physician and/or patient is not physically present with the student and the supervising physician is concurrently monitoring the patient care through appropriate telecommunication technology.
- **Indirect Supervision (with Direct Supervision Immediately Available):** the supervising physician or their appropriately licensed designee is physically within the hospital or other site of patient care, and is immediately available to provide Direct Supervision.

III. Policy Guidelines:

Supervision of Medical students:

Supervising physicians and preceptors must all be:

- 1) Credentialed and active clinical faculty (full-time, part-time, or adjunct) of any COM campus; and
- 2) Members in good standing of the Facility's medical staff where appropriate.

Students must be under the supervision (direct or indirect supervision with direct supervision immediately available) of a credentialed clinical faculty physician (full-time, part-time, or adjunct) of any COM campus. As noted above, student supervision may be delegated to an intermediate or upper-level resident, or a licensed, appropriately credentialed healthcare provider (e.g. NP, PA-C, CNM, CRNA, RN, RT) at the discretion and full responsibility of the faculty physician and training facility. This does not waive the supervising physician's responsibility for the student.



Medical students, defined as students actively enrolled at any COM campus as candidates for the DO degree and participating in patient encounters, including approved clinical rotations, will be directly responsible to and supervised by approved designated clinical supervisor(s) during each clinical assignment.

- All students shall report to and be responsible to their respective COM campus clinical faculty.
- Any direct contact between a student and a patient shall be under the supervision of their respective COM campus clinical faculty member or their designee.
- Medical students will have the status of learners. They are not to render independent patient care and/or service except as such are identified for educational value as a part of the faculty-planned educational program and unless such patient care and/or service are under the supervision of their respective COM campus clinical faculty physician.

Student Roles

Medical Students Years One (1) and Two (2):

- Must be under the supervision (direct or indirect supervision with direct supervision immediately available) of a credentialed COM clinical faculty physician (full-time, part-time, or adjunct). As noted above, student supervision may be delegated to an intermediate or upper-level resident, or a licensed healthcare provider (e.g. NP, PA-C, CNM, CRNA, RN, RT) at the discretion and full responsibility of the faculty physician.
- May participate in history taking, limited physical exam, critical data analysis and disposition.
- May be allowed access to medical records at the discretion of the clinical facility.
- May observe in surgery with appropriate consent from the patient, facility, and surgeon of record.
- May **not** document: history & physical notes, progress notes, procedure notes, operative notes, or discharge summaries in the patient's permanent medical record.
- May **not** give any orders, written or verbal.

Medical Students Years Three (3) and Four (4):

- May participate in care and management of the patient, including participation in history taking, physical examination, and critical data analysis, under the supervision (direct or indirect supervision with direct supervision immediately available) of a credentialed COM clinical faculty physician (full-time, part-time, or adjunct) or another qualified medical care professional to whom that supervision has been assigned.
- May assist in procedures under **direct supervision**, when the attending physician agrees that the student has achieved the required level of competence and permission is granted by the patient.

- May perform the procedures listed below **under indirect supervision with direct supervision immediately available** once a medical student has been observed successfully performing the procedure by a faculty member or qualified resident.
 - Blood collection: arterial, venous, or capillary
 - Injections: intramuscular, subcutaneous, intradermal, intravenous
 - Insert peripheral intravenous catheter
 - EKG
 - Foley catheter insertion (male and female)
 - Nasogastric tube insertion
 - Local anesthesia
 - Suture simple laceration
 - Suture or staple removal
 - Ventilation (ambu-bag)
 - Or others procedures directly approved by the Supervising Faculty Physician
- May document the following in the patient’s permanent medical record: history & physical notes, progress notes, procedure notes, operative notes, or discharge summaries provided that the note is **clearly** identified as a student note for educational purposes only.
- All student charting in the medical record must be clearly indicated as a Medical Student Note. The supervising physician will remain directly responsible for all student documented notes as well as be in compliance with CMS guidelines for student documentation in the medical record.
- May, under the supervision (direct or indirect supervision with direct supervision immediately available), in consultation with their respective COM campus clinical faculty physician or designee, develop a patient management plan.
- May **not** give any independent orders, written or verbal. Orders may be given only at the direction of the clinical faculty physician of record.

*Nothing in this Policy limits the authority of the university to issue, amend, or withdraw a policy.

(Below for Compliance Office Use Only)

Legal Review Required? Yes No

Date Reviewed: June 18th, 2023

Name of Reviewer: Ed Bilsky, Ph.D., Provost and CAO