POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SUBJECT: STUDENT SUPERVISION
ISSUE DATE: 11/12/2018

Policy title: Student Supervision
Policy and Procedure Statement:

Supervision of the Student

The ICOM curriculum includes required clinical experiences in a variety of clinical learning environments. The role of the ICOM student is to participate in patient care in ways that are appropriate for the student’s level of training and experience and the clinical situation. The ICOM student’s clinical activities will be under the supervision of licensed physicians. During a student’s time at the clinic or hospital, the preceptor must be available for supervision, consultation, and teaching, or designate an alternate preceptor. Although the supervising preceptor may not be with a student during every shift, it is important to clearly assign students to another physician or non-physician provider who will serve as the student’s preceptor for any given time interval. Having more than one clinical preceptor has the potential to disrupt continuity for the student, but also offers the advantage of sharing precepting duties and exposes students to valuable variations in practice style, which can help learners develop the professional personality that best fits them. The preceptor or their designee must examine all patients seen by the student doctor. It is the responsibility of the precepting/supervising physician to assure that documentation in the patient’s medical record is appropriate.

In the rare case where supervision is not available, students may be given an assignment or may spend time with ancillary staff (x-ray, lab, physical therapy, etc.), as these experiences can be very valuable. The preceptor should be aware of the student’s assigned activities at all times.
Students are not employees of the hospitals or clinics and therefore work entirely under the preceptor’s supervision. Students are not to substitute for paid clinicians, clerical staff, or other workers at the clinical sites.

The preceptor can provide direct supervision of technical skills with gradually increased autonomy in accordance with the student’s demonstrated level of expertise. First and second year medical students will be directly supervised at all times (supervising physician or designee present or immediately available). Third and fourth year medical students will be supervised at a level appropriate to the clinical situation and student’s level of experience. For some tasks, indirect supervision may be appropriate for some students. Direct supervision would be appropriate for advanced procedures. The supervising physician or provider may only supervise procedures in which they hold privileges and that are within their scope of practice.

Approved by: ___________________________________________ Date ________________

CAO/Dean

11/13/18