



**Origination:** 07/1987  
**Last Approved:** 06/2011  
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**Owner:** Chase Walters: Director,  
 Education  
**Policy Area:** Operating Room  
**References:**

## Observers/Representatives for Cases/Procedures, 30.10.06

**Document Type:** Policy, Procedure

**SUPERSEDES:** 6/02, 3/99, 2/99, 6/97, 11/95, 7/93 (HW 117.1), 7/87 (UNIT SPEC)

### PURPOSE:

To maintain the patient's right to personal privacy and maintain an aseptic environment. The patient's rights and privacy is such that all observers must obtain prior consent from the patient, the Peri-operative Lead or designee, and the physician.

1. Observers / Representatives in Perioperative Services (areas including Endoscopy, Operating Room, Post Anesthesia Recovery Unit) for cases/procedures are restricted to the purpose of teaching, research, and advance of medical knowledge. These persons include medical staff not responsible for direct care of the patient, supply representatives, ancillary hospital employees, students in health care fields not under contract with KMC and health care providers requiring clinical experience for renewed certification.  
**\*\*NOTE:** Anyone not meeting the above criteria will not be allowed into the Perioperative Services procedure room. Observers / Reps shall adhere to the policies and procedures of KRMC.
2. A consent form (i.e. Application for Approval to Observe Surgical Procedures or Demonstrate/Observe Medical Equipment) must be completed prior to visitation. The consent form can be obtained from the main Operating Room desk.
3. Peri-operative staff will instruct Observers / Reps on proper attire, and provide a unit orientation prior to entering the Peri-operative corridor/ Peri-operative room.
  - a. Students in a program contracted with KMC for clinical experience do not require an observation form (i.e. Columbia Basin College and Washington State University nursing students). They are covered by patient's condition of admission signature. Students are precepted on OR attire, hand scrub, gowning and gloving and aseptic technique as part of the school curriculum prior to entering Periop Services.
  - b. The instructor for students under contract with KMC will make arrangements with the Peri-operative staff for clinical experience.
  - c. Students that show proof of current participation in an educational program not under contract with KMC and observing only must have a consent form completed.
  - d. Students (requesting hands-on participation) sponsored by a physician must provide proof of insurance and written documentation for skills to receive temporary credentialing as a physician-sponsored applicant. The KMC Medical Staff Office maintains records for persons who apply for physician-sponsored participation.

### PROCEDURE:

Use of form: "Application for Approval to Observe Surgical Procedures or Demonstrate/ Observe Medical Equipment" – attached

ACTION	KEY POINTS
<b>OBSERVER:</b>	
1. Initiates form	1. Form may be initiated by any person, including observer.
2. Complete top portion of form - first four lines	
3. Contacts Peri-operative Lead or designee for approval and signature	3. Must be requested prior to the completion of the form
4. Reads and agrees to # 2- 11 on form.	



5.Requests physician to inform and obtain consent from patient

5.Physician obtains consent from patient, initials and signs form.

**REFERENCE:**

AORN. (2011). **Standard, Recommended Practices, and Guidelines**, Denver: AORN Inc. Rothrock, Jane C., *Alexander's Care of the Patient in Surgery*, 14<sup>th</sup> ed., Mosby, 2011.

**Attachments:**

-  [Demonstrate Observe Medical Equipment](#)
-  [Orientation for Observer Representative in Perioperative Services Cases Procedures](#)

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