9.3 CLINICAL SUPERVISION OF MEDICAL STUDENTS

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 his or her level of training, and that the activities supervised are within the scope of practice of the supervising health professional.

NARRATIVE RESPONSE

a. Describe how departments and the central medical school administration ensure that medical students are appropriately supervised during required clinical clerkships and other required clinical experiences so as to ensure student and patient safety.

b. What mechanisms exist for students to express concern about the adequacy and availability of supervision and how, when, and by whom are these concerns acted upon?

c. What mechanisms are used during required clinical experiences to ensure that the level of responsibility delegated to a medical student is appropriate to the student’s level of training and experience? Is there a policy (departmental or institutional) related to the delegation of responsibility to medical students?

d. Provide examples of how the clerkship director or the student’s attending physician ensures that non-physician health professionals who teach or supervise medical students are acting within their scope of practice.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

1. Policies or guidelines related to medical student supervision during required clinical activities that ensure student and patient safety (e.g., policies about timely access to, and in-house availability of, attending physicians and/or residents).