

HIGH DESERT HEALTH SYSTEM AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER

SUBJECT: II-120 OBSERVERS IN THE OPERATING ROOM	POLICY #: 1066
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DATE APPROVED: 06/28/2016	

PURPOSE: To describe criteria for admission of observers to the Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) operating room (OR) and the guidelines regarding observers' behavior.

POLICY: The following guidelines will be adhered to when dealing with observers in the OR.

PROCEDURE:

1. Individuals who may be allowed to observe, with permission and consent from the patient, are:
 - Medical Doctors or Medical Personnel employed by High Desert Health System and/or the ASC
 - Trained medical company representatives
 - Nursing students.
2. Family members are not permitted at any time during surgery.
3. If a sales representative/medical vendor will be present during the procedure, the surgeon must discuss this with the patient prior to the procedure. The discussion will be documented in the patients EHR.
4. Observers name and purpose will be documented on the imed consent, in the "Observers" section, prior to obtaining patient's consent for procedure.
5. Observers must be dressed in appropriate OR attire, including scrubs, shoe covers, cap and mask.
6. Observers must perform a thorough hand washing, just prior to entering and immediately after leaving the OR.
7. Observers will be directed where to stand or sit, during the procedure, by the circulating nurse.

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8. Observers are not allowed or authorized to touch OR equipment other than their specific company equipment. At no time are observers authorized to touch the patient.

9. Observers are instructed regarding the removal of their equipment by either the circulating nurse or scrub technician.

10. Observers must place their used scrubs/cover clothing in the appropriate dressing room hamper.

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