



Title:	Students Examining Student Volunteers in Years 1 and 2 Clinical Skills	Number:	043
Approved By:	Undergraduate Medical Education Committee (UGMEC)		
Approval Date:	26 September 2022	Next Review:	01 August 2022
Effective Date:	03 October 2022		
Audience:	All Students, Faculty, Staff		
Purpose:	Describes how Students Volunteers can be safely and respectfully examined by their student colleagues, using an 'opt in' process.		
Related Policies and Procedures:	1. Student Physical Examination of Clinical Teaching Associates, Standardized Patients and Volunteer Patients - #027		
Exclusions:	None		
Calendar Statement:	None required		
Contact:	UGME Director, Curriculum		

Definitions

Student Volunteer (SV)	Year 1 or 2 student who 'opts in' and consents to being examined by their student colleagues in select Clinical Skills sessions. SVs are an additional cohort within the Volunteer Patient Program and are not intended to replace Volunteer Patients.
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Preamble

Hands-on experience is essential for students to learn clinical skills. The Clinical Skills component of the years 1 and 2 MDUP courses provides curricular sessions where students gain this experience. At times, Clinical Skills cannot recruit a sufficient number of Volunteer Patients. SVs provide an additional resource to allow students to learn physical examination skills in-person.

Guidelines

- Years 1 and 2 medical students will not be examined by peers in curricular Clinical Skills sessions, unless they choose to 'opt in' as a SV. There will be no academic or other repercussions for students who decline to 'opt in'.
- Depending upon the site, students will either 'opt in' to all the Clinical Skills sessions identified as suitable for SVs, or choose the sessions in which they agree to be examined
- SVs will be informed in advance which system will be examined in that session. SVs will be given the option to have that system examined by the preceptor privately before the session to provide the SVs an understanding of the nature of the examination.
- SVs may withdraw from a session at any time before or during a session, without providing an explanation or experiencing any repercussions.
- Students who agree to be an SV will have the same opportunity to practice clinical skills as other students.
- SVs must **not** be asked to participate in any of the following (including ultrasound examinations of these areas);
 - Any examination of the breast, rectum, or genitals including pelvic examination.
 - Examination of the torso, abdomen or pelvis, including hip and spine.
 - History taking sessions which involve sharing personal medical information.
 - Any activity which requires SC, IM, IV or arterial access



MD Undergraduate Program

Policy and Procedure

- 6.5. Any activity in which a topical medication is applied
- 6.6. Corneal reflex (except under supervision by an Ophthalmology Clinical Skills Preceptor).
- 7. The Clinical Skills Directors will provide faculty development about the Guidelines/Procedures to the Clinical Skills preceptors.
- 8. SVs will be required to sign the standard MDUP Conduct Agreement + Waiver for CTAs, SPs, VPs, SVs and Guests.

Procedure

- 1. Clinical Skills Directors will communicate with Years 1 and 2 students to introduce the Guidelines and Procedures and to describe the survey process. They will describe the importance of in-person clinical skills sessions. The Clinical Skills Directors will also describe how SVs can ‘opt in’, but that there will be no academic or other repercussions for students who choose not to volunteer.
- 2. A survey will be sent to students at all sites, that will include the following:
 - 1. Do you wish to participate as an SV? Y/N
 - 2. If you agree to participate, will you prefer a ‘pre-exam’ by the tutor, before the relevant Clinical skills session?
- 3. Based on the survey response, student groups will be arranged and the groups with students who choose to ‘opt in’ as SVs will be integrated into the Clinical Skills schedule.

Review History

Action	Committee	Date	Status
Reviewed	Legal Advisor	6 November, 2020	Endorsed
Reviewed	MDUP COVID-19 Task Force	10 November 2020	Endorsed
Reviewed	Undergraduate Medical Education Committee	16 November 2020	Approved
Reviewed	Policy Advisory Subcommittee	21 July 2022	Endorsed
Reviewed	Legal Counsel	02 August 2022	Endorsed
Reviewed	Undergraduate Medical Education Committee	09 August 2022	Clarification requested
Reviewed	Undergraduate Medical Education Committee	26 September 2022	Approved