

Student Practical Experience Information Sheet and Consent

As part of the regular program curriculum, PA students are required to practice various exams and procedures on model patients and/or on classmates serving as simulated patients. As a student in the PA program, you are expected to serve as the simulated or practice patient in some courses.

None of the exams or procedures being performed on you while you are serving as a practice patient are intended to provide medical care or diagnose any medical condition. The purpose is to better educate students in the PA program to perform these procedures. Additionally, having students serve as practice patients provides students with an opportunity to consider the patient's perspective.

This information sheet is intended to provide you with information regarding the procedures that may be performed on you by classmates and obtain your consent to act as the practice patient for various procedures. The exams and procedures that may be performed on you and associated risks are described below.

Physical Exams

Exams include vital signs; examination of the eyes, ears, nose, and throat; skin exam (limited to hair and extremities); abdomen; chest; musculoskeletal; and neurological. When abdominal, chest, or musculoskeletal exams are performed on you, you will be wearing a patient gown and sheets will be used for draping. You may be uncomfortable during an exam, but there are no known physical risks.

Ultrasound

Ultrasound is a medical procedure that uses high frequency sound waves to produce images of the human body. Ultrasound may be performed on any area of your body including but not limited to the extremities, abdomen, chest, neck, and eye. There is a small risk of irritation from the gel that is used on the area being imaged. If a neck ultrasound is performed incorrectly, you could also experience syncope (passing out). You will be lying down to prevent injury if syncope occurs.

Fluorescein Staining

Fluorescein staining is a test that uses orange dye, placed into the eye via eye dropper or blotting paper, and a blue light to detect foreign bodies in the eye and/or damage to the cornea. There is a small risk of eye irritation (stinging) and/or an allergic reaction from the dye. The dye could also temporarily stain the skin around the eye.

Measuring Intraocular Pressure

Intraocular pressure (IOP) is measured using an iCare device, which is a handheld instrument with a lightweight probe that briefly contacts the eye and provides an IOP reading. There is a risk of cross-contamination which could lead to infection if probes are re-used on patients rather than replaced. There is also a risk of corneal abrasion.

Blood Draw and IV Placement

Drawing blood and starting IVs will be performed using standard techniques to prevent infection. There is a risk of pain, bruising, and infection with both of these procedures. There is also a slight risk of DVT (deep vein thrombosis or the formation of a small clot in the vein) associated with IVs. There is also a risk of a needle stick which may be contaminated with blood. Should this occur, students should follow the needle stick protocol as outlined in the IU MPAS handbook.

Participation as a practice patient is an important part of the program, but you are not required to participate in any of these procedures. If you have questions or concerns about participating as a practice patient or you would like to opt out of participation in specific procedures, alert the course instructor, preferably in advance of the day planned for practice procedures. While these procedures are not intended to provide medical care, find abnormalities, or diagnose disease, if a student performing the procedure feels they may have discovered an abnormality, they will inform you. Per our accreditation standards, faculty are unable to provide you with any medical advice, even in the event of a suspected abnormal finding. You are responsible to seeking any follow-up medical care you determine to be appropriate. The cost of such follow-up care is your responsibility. The program will not provide any compensation for follow-up care, including follow-up care that determines that no abnormalities were present.

Handling Sharps

There will be several activities during the program which require students to handle sharps including vials, needles, and scalpels. There is a small risk of injury to oneself while handling sharps.

By signing below, you indicate your agreement to serve as a practice patient and you assume the risks of participating as described in this information sheet.

Student Signature

Date