

## Providers of Health Services to University of Alberta Medical Students Policy

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| <b>Office of Accountability:</b>                | Dean, Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry                                 |
| <b>Office of Administrative Responsibility:</b> | MD Program  |
| <b>Approver:</b>                                | MD Curriculum and Program Committee                                   |
| <b>Scope:</b>                                   | Compliance with this policy extends to all members of the MD Program. |

### Overview

Health professionals who provide any health care services to a University of Alberta medical student must have no involvement in assessing their academic performance or participate in decisions regarding their promotion and/or graduation.

### Purpose

To ensure the MD Program meets or exceeds the **Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (CACMS)**

12.5 Providers of Student Health Services/Location of Student Health Records The health professionals who provide health services, including psychiatric/psychological counseling, to a medical student have no involvement in the academic assessment or advancement of the medical student receiving those services, excluding exceptional circumstances. A medical school ensures that medical student health records are maintained in accordance with legal requirements for security, privacy, confidentiality, and accessibility.

### POLICY

1. OFFICE OF ADVOCACY & WELLBEING
  - a. No clinician from the **Office of Advocacy & Wellbeing** is allowed to be a faculty member in a course that requires the assessment of student performance or participate in decisions regarding their promotion and/or graduation.
2. UNIVERSITY WELLNESS SERVICES
  - a. No clinician from the **University Health Centre** is allowed to be a faculty member in a course that requires the assessment of student performance or participate in decisions regarding their promotion and/or graduation.
3. SMALL GROUP LEADERS



- a. Students and small group leaders are asked at the beginning of the course or session if they have a potential conflict of interest with each other (e.g. student is related to the small group leader, is a family friend, has seen the small group leader as a clinician).
- b. Students notify the course administrator if there is a potential conflict of interest. The type of conflict of interest is not disclosed.
- c. The course administrator facilitates small group assignment changes without inquiring as to the nature of the conflict of interest.

**4. CLERKSHIP ROTATIONS**

- a. Students are provided with information about potential student-teacher confidentiality on day one of their clerkship rotation.
- b. Students notify the course administrator if they have been treated by a clinician they are scheduled to work with. Details of the conflict of interest are not disclosed.
- c. The course administrator facilitates schedule change requests without inquiring as to the nature of the conflict of interest.
- d. The course administrator will not contact the clerkship coordinator, attending physician or resident with the reason behind any schedule changes.
- e. Schedule changes are not seen as an unusual event by the clerkship coordinator, attending physician or resident because these changes occasionally occur.
- f. If the clerkship coordinator has previously provided clinical care to a medical student-patient, he or she can have a co-director oversee the medical student.

The MD Program’s [Conflict of Interest in Student Assessment Policy](#) provides more detail about how to report potential conflicts of interest in small group and/or clerkship settings.

**DEFINITIONS**

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| Any definitions listed in the following table apply to this document only with no implied or intended institution-wide use. |   |
| <b>Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (CACMS)</b>   | The Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (CACMS) ensures that Canadian medical faculties’ MD programs meet the quality expected when producing tomorrow’s doctors. Medical schools demonstrating compliance are afforded accreditation, a necessary condition for a program’s graduates to be licensed as physicians. |
| <b>Office of Advocacy &amp; Wellbeing</b>   | The Office of Advocacy & Wellness (OAW) in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry at the University of Alberta looks after issues pertaining to the health and well-being of learners and faculty. The office also advocates on their behalf.  |



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| <b>University Health Centre</b> | The mission of the University Health Centre is to enhance the well-being of the University of Alberta community by providing accessible and compassionate health and wellness services. |
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**RELATED LINKS**

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| <a href="#">Boundary Violations: Personal</a> (CPASA Standard of Practice) |
| <a href="#">Conflict of Interest in Assessment Policy</a>                  |

| <b>APPROVER</b>                                | <b>STATUS</b>   | <b>DATE</b>      |
|--|---|------------------|
| Kent Stobart, Associate Dean, MD Program       | Approved  | 02 December 2013 |
| Dr. Tracey Hillier, Associate Dean, MD Program | Revisions made: Update Office of Advocacy and Wellness and University Health Centre: update CACMS standard                      | 12 June 2020     |
| MD Curriculum & Program Committee              | Approved with minor editorial changes and updates to links  | 21 October 2021  |
| MD Curriculum & Program Committee              | Approved with changes to point 4 of the policy to include all clerkship rotations, not just psychiatry as in previous versions. | 16 March 2023    |