(A) Policy Statement

Only personnel qualified by license, certification, education, and training will be allowed to assist on procedures in the OR at the University of Toledo Medical Center (UTMC). Students in approved training programs are also allowed to participate and assist in operative procedures under the direct supervision of qualified personnel.

(B) Purpose of Policy

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that only qualified personnel and appropriately supervised students participate and assist during a surgical procedure.

(C) Definitions

Limited Role - this designation is meant to identify a restricted role in regard to surgical assistance. It is intended to identify those clinical roles that do not routinely provide first assisting duties during procedures but may be called upon to perform duties such as:

- Holding and use of tissue retractors
- Cutting of suture
- Other manipulations of tissue under the direct observation and direction of the surgeon. This role does not allow for suturing of tissue, independent use of electrocautery or independent cutting of tissue.

(D) Procedure

It is the responsibility of the OR Nurse Manager and the circulating nurse to ensure that all personnel assisting on surgical procedures in the OR at UTMC are qualified and approved.

Qualified Personnel

- All faculty and attending surgical staff with appropriate surgical privileges.
- All UTMC residents and interns.
- Outside/guest faculty, or surgeon, as approved by the appropriate Department Chairman.
- Outside resident in training associated with a program that has an agreement for training with UTMC.
- UTMC employed Registered Nurse First Assistants (RNFAs), Certified Surgical Assistants (CSAs), and Physician Assistants (PAs).
- UTMC employed OR Nurse (limited role*).
- UTMC employed surgical technicians (limited role*).
• Non-UTMC employed physician extender who is employed by a credentialed UTMC attending surgeon and has undergone an appropriate approval process.
• Any appropriately licensed and credentialed clinician that has permission in writing from a Surgery Department Chairman.

Students

All student participation must come under the direct supervision of one of the above qualified personnel.
• UTMC Medical students.
• UTMC Nursing students (limited role*).
• UTMC Physician Assistant students.
• Approved Surgical Technician students (limited role*).
• Approved RNFA and CSA in training.
• Other students who have an approved training agreement in place with UTMC and fit one of the above designations.

Any questions or concerns should be directed to the Nursing Manager of Surgical Services.

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<th>Approved by:</th>
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<tr>
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<td>C. Powlesland, BSN, RN. Nurse Manager Operating Room</td>
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Next Review Date: 5/2019

Policies Superseded by This Policy: New

It is the responsibility of the reader to verify with the responsible agent that this is the most current version of the policy.