

**Health services Policies and Procedures**

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| Area: | Medical Treatment | Number: |  |
| Subject: | **Chaperone in Examination Room During a Personal Examination** | Issued: | 8-16-2008 |
| Applies To: | GSU Health Services Employees | Revised: | 1-18-2018 |
| Sources:  Responsible Party: | GSU Health Services Standards; Georgia State Medical Board Rule 360-3-.02(12)  GSU Health Services | Page(s): | 1 of 1 |
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**POLICY STATEMENT**

It is the policy of GSU Health Services to comply with Georgia State Medical Board Rule 360-3.02(12), which considers it to be unprofessional conduct to perform a physical examination of the breast and/or genitalia of a patient of the opposite sex without a chaperone present.

**PROCEDURE**

1. For an examination of the breast and/or genitalia with a patient of the opposite sex, a medical provider must comply with Georgia State Medical Board Rule 360-3-.02(12) as per above by having a chaperone present. For these and all other examinations, the following applies:
   1. The patient’s dignity will be respected by making an effort to create a comfortable and considerate environment for the patient
   2. Appropriate gowns, private facilities, sensitive draping, and clear explanations regarding components of the physical examination will be used
   3. Each patient should be made aware that they can request a chaperone at any time for any examination, and all chaperone requests should be honored
   4. Any person serving as a chaperone should be an authorized health professional
2. The patient will be instructed on how to disrobe, if necessary, for the examination.
3. When the patient is ready for the examination, the health care provider and nurse and/or chaperone will enter the room.
4. In order to allow for a separate opportunity for private conversation between the patient and the medical provider, once the examination has concluded and the patient is dressed a chaperone is no longer necessary unless the patient requests that they remain present.
5. If a patient is female, the chaperone must also be a female.