

653—21.4(148,272C) Supervisory agreements.

21.4(1) A physician who supervises a physician assistant shall establish a written supervisory agreement prior to supervising a physician assistant. A sample supervisory agreement form is available from the board. The purpose of the supervisory agreement is to define the nature and extent of the supervisory relationship and the expectations of each party. The supervisory agreement shall take into account the physician assistant's demonstrated skills, training and experience, proximity of the supervising physician to the physician assistant, and the nature and scope of the medical practice. The supervising physician shall maintain a copy of the supervisory agreement and provide a copy of the agreement to the board upon request. The supervisory agreement shall, at a minimum, address the following provisions.

a. Review of requirements. The supervising physician and the physician assistant shall review all of the requirements of physician assistant licensure, practice, supervision, and delegation of medical services as set forth in Iowa Code section 148.13 and chapter 148C, these rules, and 645—Chapters 326 to 329.

b. Assessment of education, training, skills, and experience. Each supervising physician shall assess the education, training, skills, and relevant experience of the physician assistant prior to providing supervision. Each supervising physician and physician assistant shall ensure that the other party has the appropriate education, training, skills, and relevant experience necessary to successfully collaborate on patient care delivered by the team. The method for assessing and providing feedback regarding the physician assistant's education, training, skills, and experience shall be reflected in the supervisory agreement.

21.4(2) The supervisory agreement between the physician assistant and the physician shall address all of the following:

a. The medical services the supervising physician delegates to the physician assistant. The medical services and medical tasks delegated to and provided by the physician assistant shall be in compliance with 645—subrule 327.1(1). All delegated medical services shall be within the scope of practice of the supervising physician and the physician assistant.

b. Methods for communication between the physician assistant and the physician and whether the physician assistant practices at the same site or a remote site. Each supervising physician and physician assistant shall conduct ongoing discussions and evaluation of the supervisory agreement, including supervision; expectations for both parties; assessment of education, training, skills, and relevant experience; review of delegated services; review of the medical services provided by the physician assistant; and the types of cases and situations when the supervising physician expects to be consulted.

(1) The plan for completing and documenting chart reviews. A licensed physician within the same facility or health care system as the physician assistant shall conduct an ongoing review of a representative sample of the physician assistant's patient charts encompassing the scope of the physician assistant's practice. The finding of the review shall be discussed with the physician assistant in a manner determined by the practice in consultation with the physician assistant's primary supervising physician.

(2) Remote medical site. "Remote medical site" means a medical clinic for ambulatory patients which is more than 30 miles away from the main practice location of the supervising physician and in which the supervising physician is present less than 50 percent of the time when the remote medical site is open. "Remote medical site" will not apply to nursing homes, patient homes, hospital outpatient departments, outreach clinics, or any location at which medical care is incidentally provided (e.g., diet center, free clinic, site for athletic physicals, jail facility). The supervisory agreement shall include a provision which ensures that the supervising physician visits the remote medical site, or communicates with a physician assistant at the remote medical site via electronic communications, at least every two weeks to provide additional medical direction, medical services and consultation specific to the medical services provided at the remote medical site. For purposes of this subparagraph, communication may consist of, but shall not be limited to, in-person meetings or two-way, interactive communication directly between the supervising physician and the physician assistant via the telephone, secure messaging, electronic mail, or chart review. The board shall only grant a waiver of this provision if

substantially equal protection of public health, safety, and welfare will be afforded by a means other than that prescribed in this subparagraph.

(3) The expectations and plan for alternate supervision. The supervising physician will ensure that the alternate supervising physician is available for a timely consultation and will ensure that the physician assistant is notified of the means by which to reach the alternate supervising physician.

[ARC 3264C, IAB 8/16/17, effective 9/20/17; ARC 4213C, IAB 1/2/19, effective 2/6/19; ARC 5252C, IAB 11/4/20, effective 12/9/20]