Physicians Scope of Service

20 March 2023

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This document is set to establish the scope of services for the different categories of physicians based on their license category. Any cases referred to the disciplinary committee and decisions regarding any violations will be based on the scope specified in this document only.

General Practitioners License

Physicians holding general licenses have the following scope of service:

1. Take history and conducts comprehensive physical examination on patients.
2. Request and follow up laboratory and radiological tests.
3. Document a differential diagnosis and inform specialist/consultant.
4. Follow up patients assigned to him/her.
5. Discuss all cases with specialist or consultant.
6. Communicate effectively with team members especially consultant.
7. Discharge patients only after discussion with the specialist and/or consultant. The specialist/consultant must counter sign the decision of discharge.
8. Issue discharge summaries, however, they may not issue medical reports or death certificates)
9. Liaison with other healthcare professionals and/or hospitals. (For seniors' general doctors)
10. General practitioner must perform minor procedures under direct supervision of a specialist or consultant.
11. Always keep the team informed regarding any update about the patient's conditions.
12. Assist specialist and consultant in operating theatre when needed.
13. Ensuring proper documentation and completion of the medical record as per the Good Documentation Guideline

General Resident License

1. Take history and conducts comprehensive physical examination on patients.
2. Request and follow up laboratory and radiological tests.
3. Document a differential diagnosis and inform specialist/consultant.
4. Follow up patients assigned to him/her.
5. Discuss all cases with specialist or consultant.
6. Communicate effectively with team members especially consultant.
7. Discharge patients only after discussion with the specialist and/or consultant. The specialist/consultant must counter sign the decision of discharge.
8. Issue discharge summaries. However, they may not issue medical reports or death certificates)
9. Liaison with other healthcare professionals and/or hospitals. (For seniors' general doctors)
10. General resident doctors in certain specialty must work in a facility that has fulltime specialist or consultant from same specialty. If the specialist or consultant was unavailable, then the general resident will not be able to take their responsibilities alone. And will work as general practitioner in the time of their absence.
11. General residents may perform minor procedures with the availability of a specialist or consultant from same filed in the same facility for any needed backup.
12. Always keep the team informed regarding any update about the patient's conditions.
13. Assist specialist and consultant in operating theatre when needed.

14. Ensuring proper documentation and completion of the medical record as per the Good Documentation Guideline

Specialist License:

Specialist licenses include physicians holding chief resident (Senior Registrar) job titles.

They have the following scope of service:

1. Take history and conduct comprehensive examination on patients.
2. Request and follow up laboratory and radiological tests.
3. Document a differential diagnosis.
4. Follow up patients assigned to the team.
5. Supervise residents and senior residents within the same team.
6. Communicate effectively with team members especially consultant.
7. Establish a plan of treatment for the patient.
8. Keep consultant updated about admitted patients and their conditions.
9. Discuss complicated and/or serious cases with the consultant.
10. Discharge patients only after discussion with the consultant.
11. Inform the consultant about patients (and their condition) being shifted to the operating room.
12. Issue discharge summaries, medical reports, and death certificates
13. Liaison with other healthcare professionals and/or hospitals
14. Perform procedures with the knowledge of the consultant.
15. Assist consultant in operating theatre when needed.
16. Ensuring proper documentation in the medical record as per the Good Documentation Guideline
17. Educate patients about their illness and its progress.
18. Obtain informed consent from patients for invasive procedures.
19. To refer to the consultant when they face any type of difficulty or hesitancy.

Consultant License:

Consultants have the following responsibilities in addition to specialists' responsibilities:

1. Consult other specialities/healthcare professionals when patient's condition requires.
2. Attend to the patient when the condition requires or when the specialist requests assistance.
3. Obtain informed consent from patients for invasive procedures.
4. Perform procedures within specialist/sub-speciality independently.
5. Consultants are the one who decide to admit patients in the hospitals. (By their own or by organising with the specialist doctor in the team)
6. The consultant will be responsible about his decisions as far as the instructed team has followed.