



Frequently Asked Questions

History and Physical Requirement

Standards Interpretation Staff
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Frequently organizations ask if Doctors of Dental Medicine and Doctors of Dental Surgery or Doctors of Podiatry Medicine are allowed to perform a patient's History and Physical when admitted to the hospital for dental or podiatry procedures. The standard 03.01.07 lists several requirements relative to the completion of the History and Physical and these requirements must be addressed in the Medical Staff Bylaws.

- It is acceptable for the History and Physical to be completed by a Primary Care Physician (Dentist/Podiatrist) from the community, if this is consistent with State laws and permitted per the Medical Staff Bylaws.
- If the History and Physical has been completed within 30 days prior to admission and prior to any procedure requiring anesthesia, a physical examination and brief history is to be repeated to ensure the patient continues to be eligible for surgery; from this, a written update to the H&P is required (refer to HFAP Standard 03.01.08.) These requirements must also be addressed in the Medical Staff Bylaws.
- The History and Physical, as well as the update to the History and Physical, can only be performed by a professional who has been granted privileges from the governing body.
- Certain States allow Doctors of Dental Medicine and Doctors of Dental Surgery or Doctors of Podiatry Medicine to perform the history and physical, based upon their education, training, and experience. If this is permitted in your State, the hospital and medical staff have the flexibility to offer this privilege; however, this is not required.
- Either the Medical Staff Bylaws or the Credentialing Manual must identify which practitioners are eligible for the privileging of completing the History and Physical. In addition to MDs and DOs, in certain states, a Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistant, and other non-physician practitioners may be granted the History and Physical privilege, in accordance with State law and Scopes of Practice. For non-physician practitioners, the facility is responsible to confirm that these privileges are in accordance with all State laws and Scopes of Practice.
- In situations in which a Doctor of Dental Medicine and Doctors of Dental Surgery or Doctors of Podiatry Medicine DOES NOT have the privilege to conduct a History and Physical, then another practitioner with the privilege would be required to conduct the examination and perform the update to the History and Physical.

03.01.07 Bylaws - History & Physical Requirement.

The bylaws must include:

- A medical history and physical be completed and documented for each patient no more than 30 days before or 24 hours after admission or registration, but prior to surgery or a procedure requiring anesthesia services. The medical history and physical examination must be completed and documented by a physician (as defined in section 1861 (r) of the Act), an oromaxillofacial surgeon, or other qualified licensed individual in accordance with state law and hospital policy.*

§482.22(c)(5)(i)