

Standards for the **Sensitive** Health Exam or Procedure

What is a Sensitive Health Exam?

An exam or procedure involving the genitals, rectum or breasts.

What is a Medical Chaperone and What Do They Do?

A Medical Chaperone is a trained staff member who is present during the exam or procedure to assist and to serve as a witness. Note that a Medical Chaperone may not be present if impractical, such as during a medical emergency or for standard care protocols such as an EKG.

May I Decline to Have a Medical Chaperone Present?

Yes, you may decline a Medical Chaperone. However, it is a standard and consistent practice at Keck Medicine of USC to have a Medical Chaperone present during all Sensitive Health Exams and procedures. Providers may decide not to perform a Sensitive Health Exam without a Medical Chaperone present. The presence or absence of a Medical Chaperone will be documented in your medical record. Declining a Medical Chaperone will not affect the quality of medical care provided to you.

May I Request a Gender-Specific Medical Chaperone?

Yes, you may request a Medical Chaperone of a specific gender. We will do our best to accommodate your gender preference in accordance with applicable law. Please let us know in advance.

What Can I Expect During My Visit at Keck Medicine of USC?

Your privacy is our priority. We will protect your dignity and confidentiality during a sensitive health exam or procedure. You can expect:

- **AN EXPLANATION OF THE EXAM OR PROCEDURE.**
- **AN OPPORTUNITY TO ASK QUESTIONS BEFORE THE SENSITIVE HEALTH EXAM OR PROCEDURE BEGINS.**
- **THE ABILITY TO STOP THE SENSITIVE HEALTH EXAM OR PROCEDURE AT ANY TIME BY COMMUNICATING WITH THE CLINICIAN OR THE MEDICAL CHAPERONE.**

SOME EXAMS ARE MORE SENSITIVE THAN OTHERS. WE STRIVE TO ENSURE A RESPECTFUL AND REASSURING ENVIRONMENT IN COMMITMENT TO YOUR SAFETY AND DIGNITY. QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS? PLEASE ASK. WE ARE HERE TO HELP.