

Volunteer Human Subjects for Educational Purposes

For educational purposes **only**, students shall be permitted to volunteer to be examined or subject to procedures by their fellow students or instructors during didactic or clinical education when other subjects are not available. Members of the public, including Cleveland Clinic employees, are also permitted to volunteer to be examined or subject to procedures by students. Acceptable activities include, among other things, using volunteers to practice patient positioning, scanning, performing phlebotomy procedures, providing patient histories and taking vitals. Volunteers may not be used for any activity that requires the removal of clothing to a volunteer's undergarments or constitutes an invasive or sensitive examination including transvaginal, transrectal, breast or testicular examinations.

All individuals volunteering shall sign a Consent and Release form. Minors under the age of 18 may be used as volunteer human subjects to demonstrate anatomy and scanning techniques specific to pediatric patients. A parent or legal guardian must provide written consent prior to minor volunteers participating in scanning activities.

All student and nonstudent volunteers must sign a Consent and Release form prior to the examination or procedure taking place. If a student signs a Consent and Release form at the beginning of an academic year or semester, the instructor shall receive additional verbal consent prior to the examination or procedure. Under no circumstances should a student or nonstudent volunteer be coerced into volunteering. A student's choice to volunteer or not shall not affect their grades or learning opportunities.

During volunteer examinations and procedures, appropriate safety protocols must be followed at all times, including but not limited to hand washing, disinfection of probes and disinfection of equipment.

All persons volunteering to participate in an examination or procedure must be advised and confirm their understanding that there is a possibility that an adverse result may be found during an educational exam or procedure. During an examination or procedure, both the volunteer and the student examiner shall maintain confidentiality regarding the results. If an adverse result is detected, the student and volunteer shall take the following steps:

1. The examining student confidentially informs the volunteer of the suspicious finding.
2. The examining student and volunteer confidentially inform the instructor.
3. The instructor asks permission to perform the same physical examination.
4. If the instructor confirms the suspicious finding, the instructor recommends that the volunteer seeks medical advice.
5. The instructor reminds the examining student of the duty of to maintain confidentiality regarding the incident.

All individual volunteers must also be advised and confirm their understanding that pathology may be present and may not be discovered during an examination or procedure by a student.