



Position on Laser Procedures

Physicians shall be trained appropriately in the physics, safety, and surgical techniques involved in the use of energy devices capable of damaging living tissue prior to performing procedures using such devices. Living tissue is defined as any layer below the dead cell layer (stratum corneum) of the epidermis. Training should include an extensive understanding of cutaneous medicine and surgery, the indications for such surgical procedures, the pre- and post-operative care involved in treatment, as well as the treatment of complications associated with these devices.

A physician who delegates such procedures should be fully qualified by residency training and preceptorship or appropriate course work prior to delegating procedures to licensed allied health professionals and should directly supervise the procedures. The supervising physician shall be physically present on-site, immediately available, and able to respond promptly to any question or problem that may occur while the procedure is being performed.

Any licensed allied health professional employed and designated to perform a procedure by a physician must be under the direct, on-site supervision of the physician. For each procedure performed, the licensed allied health professional must have appropriate documented training in the physics, safety, and surgical techniques of each system. The licensed allied health professional should also be appropriately trained by the delegating physician in cutaneous medicine, the indications for such surgical procedures, and the pre- and post-operative care.