RULE

Department of Health and Hospitals
Board of Medical Examiners

Physician Practice; Office-Based Surgery
(LAC 46:XLV.Chapter 73)

In accordance with the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et. seq., and pursuant to the authority of the Louisiana Medical Practice Act, R.S. 37:1270, the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners has amended its rules governing office-based surgery, LAC 46XLV.7301 et seq. The amendments are set forth below.

Title 46
PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS
Part XLV. Medical Profession
Subpart 3. Practice
Chapter 73. Office-Based Surgery
Subchapter A. General Provisions
§7303. Definitions
A. As used in this Chapter, unless the content clearly states otherwise, the following terms and phrases shall have the meanings specified.

Anesthesia—moderate sedation or deep sedation, as such terms are defined in this Section.

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Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA)—an advanced practice registered nurse certified according to the requirements of a nationally recognized certifying body approved by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing ("Board of Nursing") who possesses a current license or permit duly authorized by the Board of Nursing to select and administer anesthetics or provide ancillary services to patients pursuant to R.S. 37:911 et seq., and who, pursuant to R.S. 37:911 et seq., administers anesthetics and ancillary services under the direction and supervision of a physician who is licensed to practice under the laws of the state of Louisiana.

Deep Sedation/Analgesia—a drug-induced depression of consciousness during which patients cannot be easily aroused but respond purposefully following repeated or painful stimulation. The ability to independently maintain ventilatory function may be impaired. Patients may require assistance in maintaining a patent airway and spontaneous ventilation may be inadequate. Cardiovascular function is usually maintained. Monitoring of patients undergoing deep sedation shall only be performed by an anesthesia provider.

General Anesthesia—a drug-induced loss of consciousness, by use of any anesthetic induction agent or otherwise, during which patients are not arousable even by painful stimulation. The ability to independently maintain ventilatory function is often impaired. Patients often require assistance in maintaining a patent airway and positive pressure ventilation may be required because of depressed spontaneous ventilation or drug-induced depression of neuromuscular function. Cardiovascular function may be impaired. General anesthesia shall only be performed by an anesthesia provider.

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Moderate Sedation/Analgesia (conscious sedation)—a drug induced depression of consciousness during which patients respond purposefully to verbal commands, either alone or accompanied by light tactile stimulation. No interventions are required to maintain a patent airway and spontaneous ventilation is adequate. Cardiovascular function is usually maintained. Monitoring of the patients undergoing moderate sedation shall be performed by qualified monitoring personnel or an anesthesia provider.

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Qualified Monitoring Personnel—an appropriately trained, qualified and licensed health care provider in this state, who is currently certified in advanced cardiac life support, or pediatric advanced life support for pediatric patients, and designated to monitor and attend to the patient during the pre-operative, intra-operative and post-operative periods.

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Single Oral Dose—one dosage unit of a medication in an amount recommended by the manufacturer of the drug for oral administration to the patient.

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AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1270(A)(1), 1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 30:424 (March 2004), amended LR 40:2246 (November 2014).

§7305. Exemptions
A. This Chapter shall not apply to the following surgical procedures or clinical settings:

1. exempt surgical procedures include those:
   a. that do not involve a drug induced alteration of consciousness and do not require the use of anesthesia or an anesthetic agent, those using only local, topical or regional anesthesia or those using a single oral dose of a sedative or analgesic which is appropriate for the unsupervised treatment of anxiety or pain; and/or
   b. ...

2. exempt clinical settings include:
   a. d.iii. ...


§7307. Prohibitions

A. ...

B. The level of sedation utilized for office-based surgery shall be appropriate to the procedure. Under no circumstances shall a physician withhold appropriate sedation or under-sedate a patient for the purpose of avoiding compliance with the requirements of this Chapter.

C. General anesthesia shall not be utilized in office-based surgery. Any surgery or surgical procedure that employs general anesthesia shall only be performed in an exempted clinical setting as described in Section 7305 of this Chapter.


§7308. Required Information

A. Each physician shall report to the board annually as a condition to the issuance or renewal of medical licensure, whether or not and the location(s) where the physician performs office-based surgery, along with such other information as the board may request.

B. The information shall be reported in a format prepared by the board, which shall be made a part of or accompany each physician’s renewal application for medical licensure.


§7309. Prerequisite Conditions

A. - A.2.a.i. ...

ii. have completed residency training in a specialty that encompasses the procedure performed in an office-based surgery setting;

b. ...

c. physician performing office-based surgery shall ensure that all individuals who provide patient care in the office-based surgery setting are duly qualified, trained and possess a current valid license or certificate to perform their assigned duties.

3. - 4a. ...

5. Patient Care

a. A physician performing office-based surgery shall remain physically present throughout surgery and be immediately available for diagnosis, treatment and management of complications or emergencies. The physician shall also insure the provision of indicated post-anesthesia care.

b. The anesthesia provider or qualified monitoring personnel shall be physically present throughout the surgery.

c. The anesthesia provider or qualified monitoring personnel shall remain in the facility until all patients have been released from anesthesia care by a CRNA or a physician.

d. Discharge of a patient shall be properly documented in the medical record and include:

   i. confirmation of stable vital signs;

   ii. return to pre-surgical mental status;

   iii. adequate pain control;

   iv. minimal bleeding, nausea and vomiting;

   v. confirmation that the patient has been discharged in the company of a competent adult; and

   vi. time of discharge.

6. - 6.b....

c. In the event of an electrical outage which disrupts the capability to continuously monitor all specified patient parameters, heart rate and breath sounds shall be monitored using a precordial stethoscope or similar device and blood pressure measurements shall be re-established using a non-electrical blood pressure measuring device until power is restored.

6.d. - 7.c. ...

8. Medical Records

a. A complete medical record shall be documented and maintained by the physician performing office-based surgery of the patient history, physical and other examinations and diagnostic evaluations, consultations, laboratory and diagnostic reports, informed consents, preoperative, interoperative and postoperative anesthesia assessments, the course of anesthesia, including monitoring modalities and drug administration, discharge and any follow-up care.

9. Policies and Procedures

a. A written policy and procedure manual for the orderly conduct of the facility shall be prepared, maintained on-site and updated annually, as evidenced by the dated signature of a physician performing office-based surgery at the facility for the following areas:

   i. - iii.(c). ...

b. All facility personnel providing patient care shall be familiar with, appropriately trained in and annually review the facility's written policies and procedures. The policy and procedure manual shall specify the duties and responsibilities of all facility personnel.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:1270(A)(1), 1270(B)(6).
§7311. Administration of Anesthesia

A. Evaluation of the Patient. All patients shall have a pre-surgical evaluation (history and physical) to screen for and identify any medical condition that could adversely affect the patient’s response to the medications utilized for moderate or deep sedation.

B. Administration of Anesthesia. Deep sedation/analgesia shall be administered by an anesthesia provider who shall not participate in the surgery.

E. Monitoring. Monitoring of the patient shall include continuous monitoring of ventilation, oxygenation and cardiovascular status. Monitors shall include, but not be limited to, pulse oximetry, electrocardiogram continuously, non-invasive blood pressure measured at appropriate intervals, an oxygen analyzer and an end-tidal carbon dioxide analyzer. A means to measure temperature shall be readily available and utilized for continuous monitoring when indicated. An audible signal alarm device capable of detecting disconnection of any component of the breathing system shall be utilized. The patient shall be monitored continuously throughout the duration of the procedure. Post-operatively, the patient shall be evaluated by continuous monitoring and clinical observation until stable. Monitoring and observations shall be documented in the patient's medical record. Qualified monitoring personnel assigned to monitor a patient shall not participate in the surgery.


§7314. Creation of Log; Board Access to Log and Facilities

A. A physician shall create and maintain a continuous log by calendar date of all office-based surgical procedures. The log shall include patient identifiers and the type and duration of each procedure and remain at the physician’s office-based surgery facility. The log shall be provided to the board’s staff or its agents upon request.

B. A physician who performs office-based surgery shall respond to the inquiries and requests of, and make his or her office-based surgery facility available for inspection by, the board’s staff or its agents at any reasonable time without the necessity of prior notice. The failure or refusal to respond or comply with such inquiries or requests, or make an office-based surgery facility available for inspection, shall be deemed a violation of this Chapter.