



Medical Chaperones

Effective July 1, 2023, all licensees of the Oregon Medical Board are required to provide a trained medical chaperone during sensitive examinations, which include genital and rectal examinations, as well as breast examinations for individuals who identify as female. We value transparency and are ready to address any questions you may have about the use of medical chaperones.

What constitutes a sensitive exam?

A sensitive exam refers to any physical examination involving body parts typically covered by undergarments, such as breasts, genitals, buttocks, groin/pubic region, and rectal area. At The Corvallis Clinic, we understand that some patients consider any visual or palpation-based examination of a body part usually concealed by clothing to be sensitive. Consequently, we respect our patient's right to request a medical chaperone for any examination they believe would cause discomfort, even if it falls outside the definition of a sensitive examination according to [OAR 847-010-0130](#).

What is the role of a medical chaperone?

A medical chaperone is a trained member of The Corvallis Clinic team who can serve as a witness to the events taking place during a sensitive exam. The Corvallis Clinic recognizes the importance of fostering patient-provider partnerships and is committed to respecting and advancing patients' rights to privacy and dignity, whilst incorporating practice safeguards that support the innocence of Health Care Providers.

What can I expect from a medical chaperone during a sensitive exam?

The medical chaperone will demonstrate the highest level of privacy and dignity by ensuring a private room for disrobing, utilization of appropriate gowns and drapes for the patient's body habitus, and personal protective equipment during sensitive examination. Medical chaperones must be familiar with the examination and are required to be physically present, positioned in a way where they can see the patient, observe the examination being conducted, and assist the Health Care Provider (if the tasks do not obstruct or distract the abilities to observe the examination). The presence of the medical chaperone shall be kept to the shortest possible time necessary to accomplish the vulnerable part of the visit.



How can I report a concern?

The Corvallis Clinic Compliance Department assists patients who have concerns with their medical care, which have been unresolved through routine channels. If you have concerns, please submit complete a [Patient Experience & Grievance Form](#).