



## JCI Hospital Standard FAQ: Surgical Site Marking by Trainees

Joint Commission International (JCI) recognizes the importance of consistent interpretation of accreditation standards. A table of Frequently Asked Questions is also published on The Joint Commission International website:

[https://www.jointcommissioninternational.org/-/media/jci/jci-documents/contact-us/submit-a-jci-standards-interpretation-question/jci-hospitalstandards\\_7thedition\\_faq\\_120820.pdf](https://www.jointcommissioninternational.org/-/media/jci/jci-documents/contact-us/submit-a-jci-standards-interpretation-question/jci-hospitalstandards_7thedition_faq_120820.pdf)

To continuously support our accredited organizations in meeting JCI requirements, tabled below are Frequently Asked Questions from the *Joint Commission International Accreditation Standards for Hospitals, 7th Edition*.

Standard	Subject	Interpretation Question	Response
IPSG.4.1	Site marking by trainee	The question is whether medical students can perform the actual site marking on a patient while the surgeon who is performing the procedure is actually doing direct observation of the student (student is acting as an extension of the hand of the surgeon).	<p>The intent of IPSG.4 and IPSG.4.1 states that while there are circumstances where a trainee can perform the site marking, they must require minimal supervision and perform the entire surgery/procedure. Therefore, a medical student would not be able to perform the site marking.</p> <p>The intent of IPSG.4 and IPSG.4.1 further states that the following people can perform the site marking:</p> <p><b>The responsible surgeon</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Different titles used are attending or consulting surgeon</li> </ul> <p><b>Trainee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The trainee must require minimal supervision and must perform the entire procedure</li> <li>• Based upon the structure of surgical residency programs, the following two roles can perform the site marking if they are performing the entire procedure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chief (most senior) surgical resident</li> <li>○ Surgical Fellow</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

JCI encourages customers to submit all standards-related questions through the Standards Interpretation webpage at <http://www.jointcommissioninternational.org/contact-us/submit-a-jci-standards-interpretation-question/>