**Table of Contents, Policies Rev. Date: September 2021**

**MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE POLICIES**

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**3.12 Medical Assistants**

It is ethical for a physician to work in consultation with or employ allied health

professionals, as long as they are appropriately trained to perform the activities being

requested.

Physicians have an ethical obligation to the patients for whom they are responsible to

insure that medical and surgical conditions are appropriately evaluated and treated.

Physicians may teach in recognized schools for the allied health professionals for the

purpose of improving the quality of their education. The scope of teaching may embrace

subjects which are within the legitimate scope of the allied health profession and which

are designed to prepare students to engage in the practice of the profession within the

limits prescribed by law.

It is inappropriate to substitute the services of an allied health professional for those of a

physician when the allied health professional is not appropriately trained to provide the

medical services being requested.

The physician is the one ultimately responsible for all care given and should adhere to the

following:

1. The physician should never delegate a task beyond the education and training of the

medical assistant.

2. Direct and proper supervision should be provided at all times, which means that the

physician should be in the clinic at all times during which the medical assistant is

providing care.

3. The physician should advise his insurance carrier of the fact that he utilizes a medical

assistant.

4. The medical assistant should never hold himself or herself out as either a physician,

physician assistant, or nurse. When on duty, medical assistants shall at all times wear

a name tag, placard or plate identifying themselves as medical assistants. Adopted

June 17, 2004