

PRESENCE OF A THIRD PARTY IN THE CONSULTATION ROOM POLICY (CRITERION 2.2)

At times, a third party may be requested to attend a consultation. Some reasons include:

- GP may feel more comfortable having a third party present during an examination, such as the attendance of a nurse (chaperone)
- GP registrar observing for training purposes
- Patient may be accompanied by a third person such as a carer or family member.

For each of the above reasons, consent must be obtained from the patient prior to entering the consulting room.

If a medical student or other person is observing, interviewing or examining for education and training purposes, it is preferred that the patient is advised at the time of making an appointment, or at the very least, when they arrive at reception. GPs must not ask in the consulting room, as the patient may feel too awkward or uncomfortable to refuse.

PRACTICE PROCEDURE

Pro Health Care collects consent from patients for medical students and other persons receiving training by advising at the time of making an appointment, or at the very least, when they arrive at reception. GPs must not ask in the consulting room, as the patient may feel too awkward or uncomfortable to refuse.

Our practice collects consent from patients if they are accompanied by a third person into the consultation room by asking the patient if they wish to have the carer or family member present. The consent is documented in the patient's progress notes.

Document Title:	Presence of a Third Party in a Consultation Policy	Document Version:	5.0
Release Date:	27 March 2009	Revision Date:	21 October 2020