



Ambulatory Clinic Policy and Procedure

Title: PERSONS ACCOMPANYING PATIENTS	Policy Number: EP 6.2
Regulation Joint Commission RI.01.01.01 Reference:	Effective Date: 4/2015

Policy Statement:

It is the policy of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso (TTUHSC El Paso) to protect the privacy of patient health care information from persons who may not be appropriate to receiving patient health care information.

Scope and Distribution:

This policy applies and will be distributed to all TTUHSC El Paso ambulatory clinics, also known as Texas Tech Physicians.

Procedure:

Patients have the right to have family members or significant others with them at the time of health care visits. Physicians and Health Care Providers need to understand who is accompanying a patient to their clinic visit and what their relationship is to the patient.

Not all persons accompanying a patient are appropriate to be present during patient clinic visits with the Physician or Health Care Provider. If it is determined by the Physician or Health Care Provider that the accompanying person is not appropriate, that person will be asked to leave the room. If the accompanying person leaves the room the exam may proceed; but if the accompanying person does not wish to leave the room the Physician or Health Care Provider may stop the visit and advise the patient of their option to reschedule the appointment at a later date without the accompanying person.

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Signatory approval on file by: Michael J. Romano, MD Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs Clinic Operations Committee Chair Paul L. Foster School of Medicine	