

**UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA JACKSONVILLE PHYSICIANS/HEALTHCARE
COMPLIANCE POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

DEPARTMENT: College of Medicine – Jacksonville Medical Departments, Ambulatory Services, and Business Groups		SUBJECT: Physician Co-signatures on Non-Physician Practitioner Medical Notes and Orders	
EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/16/2009 ¹		POLICY NUMBER: 2011-04-001/TB09-07-001	
BACKGROUND/PURPOSE: The Florida legislature passed a law ² stating that as of July 1, 2009, physicians no longer were required to co-sign physician assistant medical notes and orders in both hospital-based and physician office settings. Please be aware that this statutory change does not impact individual payer billing requirements for professional services. For example, if a physician extender (<i>i.e.</i> , Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner or Physician Assistant) performs a service under direct physician supervision, Florida Medicaid still requires that the documentation be reviewed, cosigned and dated by the supervising physician in order to bill the charge under the physician’s provider number.			
POLICY: The University of Florida College of Medicine – Jacksonville will continue to require the supervising physician’s co-signature on all physician extender medical notes – regardless of the payer class of the patient. The physician’s signature on the encounter or charge capture form is used to support UFJPI billing and is still required in order for UFJPI to determine how to submit the charge properly. Exception: The Birth Center located on the north campus is a different practice model and as such, Certified Nurse Midwives and Licensed Midwives are able to practice without on-site physician supervision. Because this practice model would make it inconvenient and possibly inappropriate for a physician to cosign either a Certified Nurse Midwife’s or Licensed Midwife’s note as the supervising physician, the Office of Compliance will waive the physician cosignature requirement for notes documented by Certified Nurse Midwives and Licensed Midwives when rendered at the Birth Center.			
REVISED DATE: 02/10/15 (revisions in bolded, red font)	APPROVED DATE: 07/16/2009	PREPARED BY: Maryann C. Palmeter Director, Office of Physician Billing Compliance	APPROVED BY: George Wilson, M.D., Senior Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs 2/11/15

¹ Policy originally stipulated via 07/16/2009 UFJPI and UFJHI Everyone Email.
² Florida Statutes 458.347 and 459.022