



# HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES IN THE PERIOPERATIVE SETTING

## OVERVIEW

**THIS DOCUMENT** This guidance statement provides a framework for developing protocols and processes relating to the role of the health care industry representative (HCIR) in the peri-operative setting. The term health care industry representative (HCIR) refers to all health care industry representatives who provide company services for perioperative staff. Including but not limited to: sales representatives, technicians, repair/maintenance personnel.

This document provides guidance specific to New Zealand and should be read in conjunction with AORN Guidance Statement: *The Role of the Health Care Industry Representative in the Perioperative Setting for general principles and Local Organisational Policies and Procedures.*

**PURPOSE** To ensure the safety and privacy of the patient, staff and HCIR in the perioperative setting.

**SCOPE** All peri-operative staff.

## GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. The HCIR may be present during a procedure to provide instruction and technical support under conditions prescribed by the specific health care organisation.
2. RNs are responsible for providing patient care, ensuring the patient's safety, privacy and dignity, and must monitor the HCIR activities and movements within the facility.

## PERIOPERATIVE MANAGER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

	ACTION	RATIONALE
1	Ensure that the perioperative department has guidelines for the conduct and activities of visiting HCIRs to gain admission.	To ensure the patient's safety, privacy and dignity and the safety of staff and HCIR in the perioperative setting.
2	The perioperative department has specific criteria for HCIRs to be eligible to access the perioperative environment. Evidence for eligibility may include but is not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of infection control</li> </ul>	To ensure the patient's safety, privacy and dignity and the safety of staff and HCIR in the perioperative setting.

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	<p>principles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of Aseptic technique</li> <li>• Knowledge of Perioperative Department etiquette</li> <li>• Specific health care organisation confidentiality policy</li> <li>• Privacy legislation</li> <li>• Patient Code of Rights</li> </ul>	
3	Ensure that HCIR access to the perioperative environment is at the discretion of the RN, and in consultation of the medical practitioner in charge of the patient's care.	To ensure that the visit is necessary, that adequate staff are available to facilitate the visit and that staff numbers in the clinical area are kept to a minimum.
4	Ensure that patient consent is obtained and documented for HCIR access.	To ensure that the patient is informed about aspects of their care.
5	Deny the HCIR access to the perioperative setting if guidelines and criteria for access are not met.	To ensure the patient's safety, privacy and dignity and the safety of staff and HCIR in the perioperative setting.

### NURSING STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

	ACTION	RATIONALE
1	Welcome the HCIR to the perioperative area and introduce them to the team ensuring that while in the facility the HCIR should wear identification.	All members of the team are aware of the HCIR activities and attendance.
2	RN in charge appoints a nurse to orientate, guide and support the HCIR whilst in the perioperative setting.	To prevent unauthorized access to other areas, to ensure that the HCIR is aware of emergency exits and to monitor and maintain the sterile field
3	Ensure that the HCIR does not provide patient care.	To ensure the patient's safety, privacy and dignity and the safety of staff and HCIR in the perioperative setting.
4	The HCIR must not act as part of the scrub team – the HCIR may calibrate/ assemble and provide instruction on the use of equipment only.	To ensure the patient's safety, privacy and dignity and the safety of staff and HCIR in the perioperative setting.
5	Ensure that the HCIR remains within the health care organisation and their	To ensure the patient's safety, privacy and dignity and the safety of staff and HCIR in

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	company guidelines at all times.	the perioperative setting.
6	Ensure that the presence of a HCIR is documented in the patient notes.	To provide a complete documented record.

### HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES RESPONSIBILITIES

	ACTION	RATIONALE
1	Provide the health care organisation with their company guidelines and evidence to demonstrate that they meet entry requirements.	To ensure the patient's safety, privacy and dignity and the safety of staff and HCIR in the perioperative setting.
2	Wear identification and follow health care organisation guidelines with regard to attire at all times.	All members of the team are aware of the HCIR activity and attendance. Infection control protocols are adhered to.
3	Leave the perioperative environment if asked to do so.	To ensure the patient's safety, privacy and dignity and the safety of staff and HCIR in the perioperative setting.

### ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

TYPE	DOCUMENT TITLES
Legislation	Human Rights Act 1993 Health and Disability Consumer 2004 Privacy Act 1993 Code of Health and Disability Consumer's Rights 1994

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