

## Clinical Observation Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

The objective of requiring students to observe in a sonography department is to enable them to have a more realistic and knowledgeable perspective of the profession.

Whether you choose General or Echocardiography, you must complete a total of four (4) hours of observation General ***and*** four (4) hours in Echocardiography, totaling 8 hours of observation.

Students are required to observe in a hospital-based sonography department. Please take advantage of all opportunities to view a variety of exams, talk to the staff about their profession and ask appropriate and professional questions such as what type of exam is most interesting and challenging for them. Notice the amount of direct patient care that is required in this setting.

**Prospective students must demonstrate professional attributes during the observation process. Professionalism as defined by the sonography programs covers such areas as attitude, judgment, honesty, integrity and attire. Students whom do not demonstrate professionalism may be denied admission into any of the sonography programs that are offered at the University of Findlay.**

**Please check which department you completed your hours of observation:**

General Sonography:

Echocardiography:

**Complete the following questions:**

1. List the types of exams you observed:
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. List the equipment manufacturer(s) within the department:
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Describe the professional qualities of the staff:
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What was the most unexpected event that you experienced:
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Describe the most interesting aspect of your time observing in the department:

I verify that the above listed student observed in the sonography department for \_\_\_\_\_ hours in ***General or Echo (circle one)*** and conducted themselves in a professional manner being mindful and respectful of the patients, staff and physicians.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Clinical Supervisor or Designee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Preparation for your observation** – Please wear business casual apparel. Business casual is a classic, clean cut and put together look. We encourage you to project a professional business-like image while completing your observation hours. Please make sure your clothes are clean and wrinkle free. Shoes should be in good condition and you should wear socks. Athletic shoes, sandals, and flip-flops are not acceptable. Your hair should be clean and neat. Please use good judgment and do not wear tight fitting or revealing clothing. If any staff member feels as though your attire is inappropriate, you will be asked to leave the Sonography department with no opportunity to return. Below you will find examples for business dress casual:

Women's Business Casual Attire:

*Shirt* - A dress shirt with a collar; a dress shirt without a collar; a dress sweater; a turtleneck; a sweater over a shirt with a collar. (No t-shirts or sweatshirts.)

*Slacks* - A pair of dress slacks/trousers or knee length skirt: black, charcoal, gray, khaki. (No jeans.)

*Jewelry and makeup* – Jewelry is limited to one pair of earrings and a watch. Makeup should be conservative and worn in moderation.

Men's Business Casual Attire:

*Shirts* – A plain polo shirt or a long-sleeved casual button-down oxford shirt, a sweater, sports coat or blazer (No t-shirts or sweatshirts.)

*Pants* – A pair of dress pants: black, charcoal, gray, khaki (No jeans.)

*Shoes* – Loafers

Chewing tobacco, gum and facial piercings are not permitted while in the clinical setting. Tattoos cannot be visible. It is recommended that you eat a healthy meal before your observation.

**Introduction to the Staff** – You scheduled your appointment with a member of the Sonography department. This individual is a registered Sonography professional employed by the hospital. In addition to the individual's responsibilities in the Sonography department, they are responsible for ensuring your hours are well spent and documenting your time. Please take a moment to introduce yourself to the staff and discuss how your observation time will be coordinated.

**Interacting with a sonographer** – Sonographers work in a variety of different medial settings and are professionals in the health care setting. Observe them carefully and notice their professionalism, technical skills and excellent patient care skills. These skills have come from years of study and experience.

**Should you come in contact with a sonography program student** – Sonography program students attend clinic to apply the knowledge learned at the university to patients in a clinical setting. Program students can give you an accurate picture of the level of commitment that you will need to be successful.

**Questions to ask sonography students:**

- What are some of their duties at the hospital?
- What are some of the expectations that are required of them?
- What do they like the most about the clinical setting?
- Do they enjoy interacting with the patients?
- What kind of study habits do they find most beneficial?

Upon completion of the observation/s, students are required to return the signed form to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program Office.

If you have any questions, contact our program office at (419) 434-5886.