### STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
**Roswell Park Cancer Institute**  
**Perioperative Services**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE: Cell Phone and Smart Phone Use in the Operating Room</th>
<th>Number: 100.16.1</th>
<th>Revision:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
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**A. POLICY**  
Cell/Smart phones provide a useful, convenient and efficient method of communication and their use is pervasive. The use of cell/smart phones while caring for patients, especially in the operating room can be distracting. The safety and welfare of our patients is of utmost importance at RPCI, and the use of cell/smart phones by RPCI health care providers should be in accordance with this policy.

**B. SCOPE**  
This policy applies to all Operating Room personnel without exception.

**C. RESPONSIBILITY**  
This policy will be administered by:
- Surgeon-in-Chief
- Medical Director, Perioperative Services
- Clinical Chair, Anesthesiology
- Senior Administrator, Perioperative Services
- Perioperative Services Nurse Manager
- Charge Nurse or Designee

Reports of violations or questions about enforcement shall be submitted to the Surgical Services Executive Committee (SSEC).

**D. DEFINITIONS**  
Exception paging (pager referrals):
- Allows you to send your pages to another individual through i2.

**E. PROCEDURE**  
To ensure the safety and welfare of all of our patients, all operating room personnel must abide by the following during all surgical procedures.

1. Only patient related phone calls are allowed from patient drape time to drape removal. Internet searching, texting and emailing are prohibited from patient drape time to drape removal in the operating room.

2. Personnel are not permitted to use cell/smart phones in the operating room for non-paging use while the patient is draped (i.e. no phone calls, texts, tweets, e-mails, photos, social media posts or internet access) unless one of the following exceptions applies:
   - Urgent patient care issues that cannot be handled by the staff covering the physician’s service
   - The physician is the sole provider of a particular service
3. Personal, business or non-patient related calls are prohibited in the operating room. In the case of emergencies, they should call 716-845-8849.

4. Prior to commencing a surgical case, all surgeons are strongly encouraged to utilize the exception paging feature on i2. Below are instructions for setting up a pager referral:
   - Go to your i2 profile page, or the page of the person you are setting up coverage for
   - Click on "send amcom text page"
   - Scroll down to "Set A Paging Exception"
   - Select "Referral" and type in the phone number you would like to refer pages to
   - Change "Start" and "End" dates and times for the referral period needed
   - Add a note if additional information is needed
   - When complete, select "Save"

5. The use of hardwired or land line phones in the operating room is subject to the same policy.

6. The use of cellular devices to take and transmit photographs is governed by hospital policy on photography of patients and by government regulations pertaining to patient privacy and confidentiality. RPCI Policy 108.1 prohibits the taking of photographs and videotapes of patients unless authorized by the patient.

F. REFERENCES

G. DISTRIBUTION
This Policy and Procedure will be distributed to all Institute Managers via the RPCI internal web page (i2) and to holders of backup hard copies of the manual. Managers are responsible for communicating policy content to pertinent staff.