

# Chaperones for sensitive exams and procedures

Frequently asked questions



## We're here for you

At UCLA Health, we understand that certain medical exams and procedures are more sensitive than others and we want to make sure that you are as comfortable as possible. Our trained chaperones help ensure that sensitive exams and procedures are completed in a safe, comfortable and considerate manner.

### What is considered a "sensitive" exam or procedure?

A sensitive procedure involves a physical examination of the breasts (female), genitalia or rectum. Examples include:

- Breast, vaginal, penile, scrotal or rectal exams

### What does the chaperone do?

The chaperone is a specially trained member of the UCLA Health clinical team whose job is to enhance the patient's and provider's comfort, safety, privacy, security and dignity during sensitive exams or procedures. During the exam or procedure, the chaperone will stand in a location where he or she is able to observe the exam or procedure, and assist as needed.



### Can I decline to have a chaperone present during my exam or procedure?

Adults who are able to make their own medical decisions have the right to decline having a chaperone present during their exams or procedures. Patients who decide to opt out can do so when they arrive at their appointment.

In some cases, the health care provider may decide not to perform a particular exam or procedure without a chaperone present.

### Can I request a gender-specific chaperone?

If you prefer a male or female chaperone, please let us know when you arrive for your appointment. If your preferred chaperone is available, we will do our best to accommodate your request.

If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to the clinic manager.