



Informed Consent

Informed consent process and documentation: For elective procedures, a best practice is to use a procedure specific consent form on your own letterhead executed after the informed consent discussion takes place in your office.

Have the patient initial next to each disclosed risk and have a witness sign, date and time the form. In addition, in your office note or admitting history, dictate a paragraph about the disclosure and consent process.

This paragraph should include some detail about the nature of the discussions such as whether another family member or provider was present. Include pertinent details.

Here is an example:

" I explained to Mr. or Ms. _____ and family member (if present) that the purpose of the (name of procedure) was to (expected benefits). I showed Mr. or Ms. _____ (anatomical models/medical illustrations/a video) demonstrating the issue(s) and how we propose to proceed. The risks associated with this procedure were discussed with Mr. or Ms. _____ including the possibility of (_____ and death). Alternative treatment options such as _____ have been tried and discussed with results not being satisfactory. I have answered all of his/her questions to his/her satisfaction. He/she has verbalized understanding of the risk and acknowledged that no outcome is guaranteed. He/she has voluntarily expressed a desire to proceed with the (name of procedure)."