

Policy Statement on Informed Financial Consent (IFC)

MSASA supports the principal of informing patients of the cost of services provided by its members. This is commonly known as Informed Financial Consent (IFC).

MSASA supports the IFC position statement of the Australian Medical Association (AMA).

MSASA recommends that its members follow the AMA guidelines on IFC.

MSASA recommends that its members consult the surgeons they assist concerning the most appropriate and practical method of delivering IFC for surgical assistant services.

MSASA recommends that its members advise the practice staff of the surgeons they assist as to their billing practices in order to facilitate IFC preoperatively.

MSASA advises that where IFC is not being provided by designated staff on behalf of the medical surgical assistant then, as a minimum requirement, patients should be provided with contact details of the medical surgical assistant so that IFC can be obtained prior to surgery.

MSASA recognises that in emergency surgery, the patient's clinical welfare is the over-riding consideration and may prevent the delivery of IFC preoperatively. In these cases IFC should be delivered as soon as practical after surgery with appropriate explanation.

Authorised by
Medical Surgical Assistants Society of Australia
May 2007

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