



Who is Allowed in New York State to Function as a Physician Substitute in a Source Plasma Donation Center (SPDC)?

In New York State, a physician substitute must be a Registered Nurse, (RN), Licensed Practice Nurse (LPN) or Physician Assistant (PA). A current NYS license registration is required.

What Duties Can a Physician Substitute perform?

- A memorandum or position description must exist detailing which Responsible Physician duties have been delegated to the Physician Substitute. Duties allowed to be delegated are:
 - Obtaining informed consent
 - Obtaining medical history
 - Performing physical exam
 - Initial triage of serum protein electrophoresis and screening syphilis results
- A Physician Substitute licensed as an LPN cannot carry out non-patient specific standing orders for emergency medical care in the event of an adverse donor reaction. The Physician Substitute must consult with the Responsible Physician or other qualified medical provider who may prescribe medical treatment (including administering medications in an emergency kit to the donor) or refer the donor for additional care.
- A Physician Substitute licensed as an RN or PA may provide emergency anaphylaxis treatment under a non-patient specific standing order.
- Donors should be referred to a hospital emergency department when they need such emergency care.

What is Expected to Be Included in Physician Substitute Training?

- The Responsible Physician (RP) must approve the successful initial training of the Physician Substitute (PS) and the annual competency assessment of the PS, in addition to demonstrating adequate ongoing supervision of the duties delegated to the PS.
- The PS must maintain current cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification. If the SPDC utilizes an automatic external defibrillator (AED), the CPR course must include use of an AED.

What is the Minimum Requirement for Physician Substitute Staffing Level?

- At least one PS must be on site at the SPDC whenever donor screening and eligibility is being determined, and whenever apheresis is being performed.