I. PURPOSE:
To provide information for departments that want to have short-term visiting residents (international or US medical graduates) who are not eligible under the "Visiting Housestaff" policy and who are not eligible to provide clinical services.

II. DEFINITION:
An observer is defined as "a representative sent to observe but not participate officially in a gathering." Clinical observers and shadowers may not provide clinical services.

III. POLICY:
Departments may elect to allow physicians to come for observation or "shadowing" experiences within the department. This is completely a departmental discretionary decision and must be arranged solely with department representatives. Observers, or shadowers, will not have any clinical responsibilities but must complete institutional documentation requirements in order to avoid liability and confidentiality problems. These are HIPAA requirements.

III. PROCEDURE:
1. Observers, or shadowers, are non-employees. In order to avoid liability exposure to the institution, observing or shadowing experiences must be arranged through the University Information Security and Privacy Office. Information can be found on their web site: http://privacy.utah.edu/, or call 801-587-9241. The Information Security and Privacy Office will provide all forms, policies, and instructions regarding non-employee observers or shadowers.

Approval body: Graduate Medical Education Committee
Approval date: 12/04
Policy Owner: Graduate Medical Education

Historical Information:
Review dates: 6/05, 5/06, 1/07, 6/07, 8/08, 8/09, 10/10, 5/2015
Revision dates: 12/04, 12/06, 6/07, 8/09, 10/10, 5/2015
Approval dates: 8/09