

SCOTT AND WHITE CLINIC
DIVISION OF GENERAL SURGERY

TOPIC: Management guidelines for General Surgery Telemedicine Consultations

I. Purpose of Guidelines.

- For Advanced Practice Nurses and others involved in delivery of patient care via telemedicine.
- Provide the framework for considering the appropriate patient, information and processes for telemedicine consultations.

II. General Scope of Care.

- Adult patients status post surgery referred by General Surgery.

III. General Surgery Consult information and instructions

- Follow-up (TF) scheduled 20 minutes.
- Arrival notice, telemedicine equipment location, Desk 4A.
- General Surgery telemedicine consultations coordinated by Physician Referral.

IV. Consultation Data (patient information)

- Patient has completed S&W form 324 & 324S within the past 6 months.
- Patient will sign Telemedicine consent form for General Surgery (at remote Clinic/site).
- Referring physician's initial history, physical examination.
- Record temperature, pulse, respiration, blood pressure, and weight.

V. Instructions For Examination

- Briefly present patient to the advanced practice nurse, give reason for consult.
- Place patient in sitting position, close to the Telemedicine Unit.
- Assisting person scan areas directed by General Surgery APN.
- Electronic stethoscope available to apply to areas requested by General Surgery APN.

VI. Patient Instructions

- General Surgery APN will discuss working diagnosis with patient.
- Assisting person will write or assist patient to write instructions for follow-up recommendations, appointments, test, medications, diet or activity level as directed by General Surgery APN.

VII. Management of consultant's findings (information)

- Dictation directed to S&W transcription center. Send copies of the dictation to the referring physician.
- Store images/records on the telemedicine equipment.

VIII. Coding Telemedicine consultations

- Charged as an office consultation at the appropriate level using the GT modifier.

Physician/Director Signature

Date Signed