TREATMENTS AND PROCEDURES REQUIRING SIGNATURE CONSENT

*Treatments and procedures not included on this list may require signature informed consent if they meet the requirements outlined in paragraph 13.c.(2)(a) of VHA Handbook 1004.01, Informed Consent for Clinical Treatments and Procedures.* This list was last updated in January 2021.

1. Surgical or invasive procedures, including but not limited to:

   a. Any procedure done within an operating room;

   b. Aspiration of body fluids or injection of therapeutic or diagnostic agents through the skin or into a body cavity (e.g., bone marrow aspiration, lumbar puncture, paracentesis, thoracentesis). **NOTE:** Signature informed consent is not required for joint aspiration. Oral informed consent is sufficient for joint aspiration. Signature informed consent for joint injections is required;

   c. Biopsy (e.g., breast, liver, muscle, kidney, genitourinary, prostate, bladder);

   d. Cardiac procedures (e.g., cardiac catheterization, cardiac pacemaker electrode insertion, electrical cardioversion, stress tests to include exercise and pharmacologic methods);

   e. Central vascular access device insertion (e.g., arterial line, Swan-Ganz catheter, central venous line, peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC) line, Hickman catheter);

   f. Electrocautery;

   g. Endoscopy (e.g., bronchoscopy, colonoscopy, cystoscopy, laparoscopy);

   h. Interventional radiology procedures (e.g., arthroplasty, angiography);

   i. Photocoagulation;

   j. Oral surgical procedures (including gingival biopsy);

   k. Sterilization of reproductive capacity;

   l. Thoracostomy;

   m. Tracheostomy; and

   n. Transjugular intrahepatic portal stent (TIPS).

2. Sedation, other than anxiolysis (level one sedation).
3. Anesthesia, other than low risk local anesthesia (e.g., topical numbing agents).


**NOTE:** It is not necessary to obtain a separate signature consent for sedation, anesthesia, or blood product transfusion if the combined consent form for the procedure already contains consent for sedation, anesthesia, or blood product transfusion, as in iMedConsent Web.

5. Delivery of a child.


7. Botox treatment for dystonia.

8. Dialysis (hemodialysis or peritoneal).


10. Hazardous drugs (e.g., cancer chemotherapy, methadone for narcotic dependence, thalidomide, clozapine, Retin A).

11. Photochemotherapy in combination with psoralens or other topical agents.

12. Lithotripsy.

13. High-risk imaging procedures where there is no other appropriate alternative diagnostic approach, such as:
   a. Intravascular injection of iodinated radiographic contrast agents in high-risk patients (e.g., those with prior allergic reactions, renal failure or other risk factors);
   b. Intravascular injection of gadolinium contrast agents in high-risk patients (e.g., those with prior allergic reaction to gadolinium or at risk of nephrogenic systemic fibrosis);
   c. Radionuclide therapy (e.g., radioiodine for hyperthyroidism and thyroid cancer, radionuclide or adiosamarium for palliation of painful metastases to bone, Zevulin or Bexxar therapy for lymphoma or other radionuclide therapies); and
d. Pregnant patient receiving intravascular contrast agents or x-radiation to the fetus.

14. Forensic Examination.