

## Position statement

### Minimum Facilities for Pre-Anaesthesia Consultations

#### Preamble

The pre-anaesthesia consultation is an integral component of the peri-operative management of the patient undergoing anaesthesia or sedation.

Adequate preparation prior to anaesthesia or sedation is a significant factor in ensuring optimum safety in peri-operative patient management.

The principles that underpin the pre-anaesthesia consultation apply whether the consultation is conducted in private rooms as part of a hospital-based pre-anaesthetic clinic or in-hospital for an inpatient or DOSA/ Day Stay patient.

This document should be read in conjunction with ANZCA Professional Document PS07 "Guidelines on Pre-Anaesthesia Consultation and Patient Preparation" (2017).

#### Privacy

The consultation must be able to be conducted in privacy, with appropriate regard for medical needs, cultural and religious sensitivities. An equipped consulting room or single bed hospital room is ideal. Under certain circumstances such as emergency surgery the assessment and consultation may be completed in the anaesthesia room. The consultation should not occur in the operating room.

#### Space

Due regard needs to be placed on the need for space to accommodate a family member and/or an interpreter, with seating for all parties.

There should be sufficient facilities for consultation commensurate with the volume of work undertaken in that facility.

#### Equipment

There should be access to personal protective equipment (PPE) (disposable gowns, gloves, masks and glasses) and handwashing/sanitising facilities.

The measurement of vital signs (BP, HR, SpO<sub>2</sub>) is an integral component of the assessment and the necessary equipment should be available.

There should be access to an examination couch/bed/examination trolley, affording the necessary level of privacy.

**Promulgated** 01/02/2014

**Reviewed** 06/02/2010

**Latest Revision** 13/09/2019

**Disclaimer** The Australian Society of Anaesthetists Limited is not liable for the accuracy or completeness of the information in this document. The information in this document cannot replace professional advice.

**Copyright** The Australian Society of Anaesthetists Limited owns the copyright in this material. This material may only be reproduced for commercial purposes with the written permission of the Australian Society of Anaesthetists Limited.