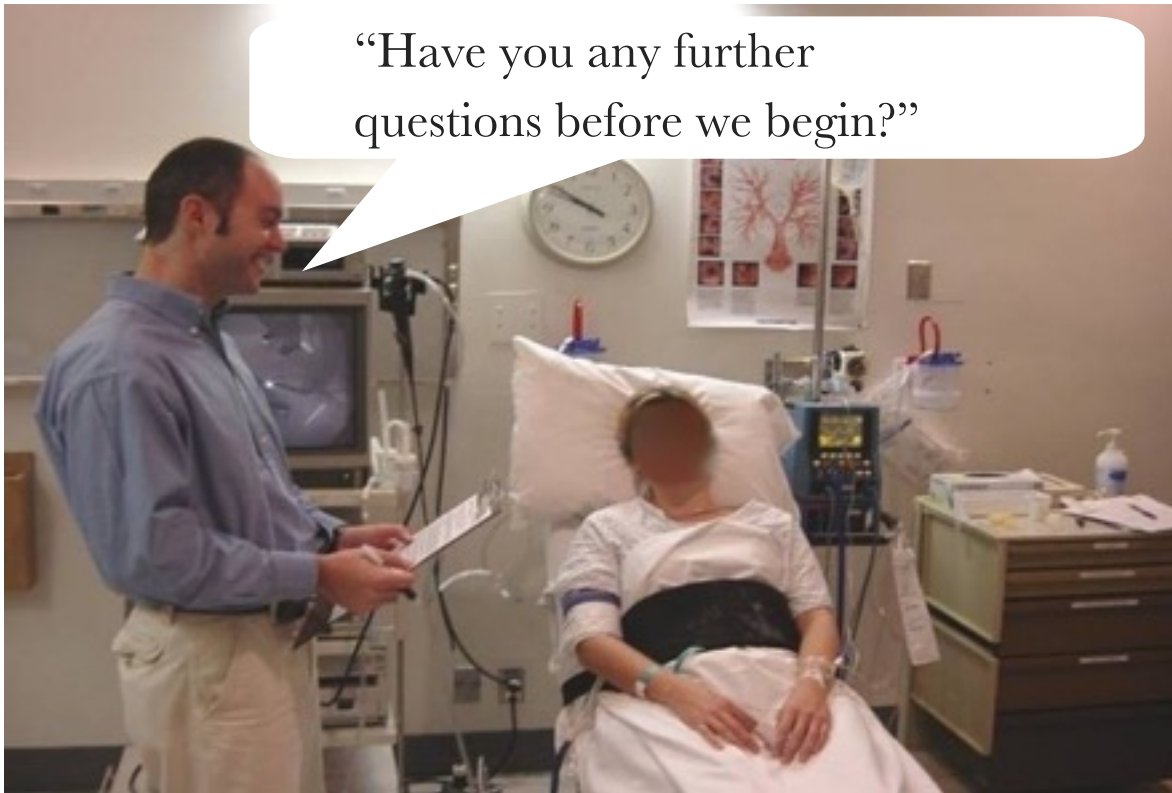


Informed Consent

10 ways to ensure a patient's well-being



1. Explain the diagnosis.
2. Explain pertinent clinical issues.
3. Describe the purpose of the procedure.
4. Describe the nature of the procedure.
5. Describe procedure-related risks.
6. Describe procedure-related benefits. (Disclose conflicts of interest).
7. Describe alternative procedures regardless of cost or health care coverage.
8. Describe the risks and benefits of each and every alternative.
9. Describe the risks and benefits of not performing the procedure or any of its alternatives.
10. Ask patients to explain their understanding of the procedure in their own words.
(Patients should be able to answer FIVE questions: What is the medical problem; what procedure has been recommended; what will happen with and without the procedure; what is the reason for the decision).