

**Department Of Health
Health Systems Quality Assurance
Office of Health Professions and Facilities
Washington State Podiatric Medical Board
Policy/Procedure**

Title:	Assistant Surgeon Role/Scope Of Practice	Number: PO95-05
Reference:	Board Minutes November 8, 1989; November 1, 1991; April 12, 2012; July 12, 2012	
Contact:	Program Manager	
Effective Date:	July 12, 2012	
Supersedes	November 1, 1991	
Approved	Board	
Signature	Suzanne Wilson, DPM, Chair	

POLICY

A podiatric physician and surgeon is allowed to be an assistant surgeon only within their defined scope of practice. If a podiatric physician and surgeon is acting as an assistant surgeon, that practice may only pertain to procedures allowed under the scope of the practice of podiatric medicine and surgery. Assistant surgeons must be able to take over the surgery in the case of an emergency. A podiatric physician and surgeon acting as an assistant surgeon outside of his/her scope of practice is subject to disciplinary action.

PROCEDURE

Action – See Department of Health business practice 1-2-02