

Effective Date: January 1, 2019

Retired:

Revised:

Approved by:

Maria F. Lima, Ph.D. Dean, School of Graduate Studies and Research

Subject: Evaluation of Occupational Exposure, Illness, and Injury

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is:

To describe the procedures for responding to accidental occupational exposures, illness, or injury.

POLICY STATEMENT:

Students who are accidentally exposed to blood and body fluids via needle stick, mucus membranes, or exposure of non-intact skin; or become ill or injured, as a result of a clinical assignment, will be evaluated at the Meharry Student Health Center during the Center's normal operating hours. If the Student Health Center is closed, the student will be referred to Nashville General Hospital Emergency Room or the appropriate medical facility in the community where they are assigned.

DEFINITIONS:

PROCEDURE:

Students must notify the Clinical Education Director of such injury. A reportable event form must be completed in addition to individual affiliate hospital or clinic forms.

The Student Health Center staff will triage the student and record the following information

- Student's current immunization status with regard to Hepatitis B and tetanus vaccines and any other pertinent laboratory information;
- Type of injury, when and how the injury occurred, and any pertinent information regarding the patient involved and/or incident.

If the student is located at a distant site, or in cases of dire emergency, the student should first contact the designated administrator at the work site. Any necessary emergency medical and/or nursing care should be made available to the student through the regular procedures in effect at the facility to which the student is assigned. The morning following discharge, the student must report to the Meharry Student Health Center for evaluation and clearance to return to duty. The student is to bring copies of the discharge instructions and any other information describing the treatment

Effective Date:

January 1, 2019

Subject: Evaluation of Occupational Exposure, Illness, and Injury

that was rendered. The student will be referred for further follow-up/management if indicated.

Preceding the initial clinical exposure of all students, educational sessions are given which deal with the occupational exposures to infectious and environmental hazards anticipated in the day to day practice of medicine. These sessions are mandatory and cover instruction in the prevention of occupational exposures; procedures for evaluation after exposure; and the effects of infectious and/or environmental disease or disability on student educational activities. The sessions will be given during orientation and are mandatory for any student who rotates to any affiliate hospital or clinical site. Any student who has not completed these sessions will not be allowed to begin or participate in any clinically related activities.

EXHIBITS:



Effective Date:

January 1, 2019

Subject: Evaluation of Occupational Exposure, Illness, and Injury