



BSN Program Requirement | Standard

Prevention & Management of Infectious Diseases in the Practice Setting

Definition

Students are regularly exposed to infectious diseases in the practice setting. The combination of: (a) the student's education, (b) the agency's safety controls, (c) the School of Nursing's reinforcement of prevention practices, and (d) the personal protective equipment (PPE) provided by the agency work together to keep the risk of infectious disease exposure to a minimum. Students in the program are responsible for learning about infectious disease transmission and steps for prevention. Learning and utilizing proper hand hygiene practices are critical to the health protection of the health care providers, patients/clients, and visitors. Students are taught and expected to demonstrate the knowledge around correct use of PPE, and are able to describe best practice for infection control procedures. While in the practice setting, students will follow the Health Authority's policies & procedures for Infection Control.

Immunization Status

Students are required to comply with the regulations for disease-preventable vaccines specific to the Health Authority, Agency and/or area they are practicing. Students must be able to provide proof of immunizations upon request. Failure to provide documentation of immunization status may prevent a student from completing clinical practice hours. Further related information can be found in the Standard | Practice Requirements Prior to the Commencement of Year 1 Practice or by clicking [here](#). Students completing international placements are advised to review and follow the Government of Canada - Travel Health and Safety webpage for vaccination recommendations by destination or by clicking [here](#).

Related Mandatory Student Education Modules

All students are required to comply with the Provincial and Health Authority specific educational requirements in order to complete practice experiences within those facilities/agencies. Refer to the [Practice Requirements Standard](#) for a complete list of mandatory educational modules that students must complete.

Fit Test Program

All students registered in the BSN Programs are part of the School of Nursing's Respiratory Fit Test Program. Students pay an annual fee to belong to this program. The fee provides for the program sustainability as it funds the required staff, training, equipment, and materials. This program provides an N95 Respirator Fit Test, by a certified fit-tester, annually to all students registered in the BSN Program on an as needed basis.

Facility/Agency Safety Controls

PPE is intended to be the last line of defence and should not be relied on as primary protection. Rather, risk should be limited by correctly using engineered and administrative controls followed by appropriate safe work practices. More information on the hierarchy of safety controls can be found [here](#).

Infectious Disease Exposure

In the event a student is exposed to an infectious disease through direct or indirect contact, the student will follow the protocols of the facility. The student will immediately notify his/her teacher and/or preceptor. The student completes the steps outlined in the [Student Injury or Exposure During Practice Experience Procedure](#).