

ILLNESS OR MEDICAL INCIDENT DURING CLINICAL POLICY

If a nursing student becomes ill, injured, or experiences a medical emergency while on the clinical unit or at a clinical experience, the student must immediately notify their clinical faculty or preceptor. The student's health and safety are the highest priority, and appropriate actions will be taken to ensure timely evaluation and care.

Procedure

1. Immediate Notification

- The student must inform their clinical faculty or preceptor as soon as possible if they are feeling unwell or injured.
- If the student is unable to do so, the nearest classmate or staff member should notify faculty.
- As soon as possible, either the faculty or the student must notify the School of Nursing's Clinical Coordinator.

2. Initial Response

- The clinical faculty or preceptor will assess the situation and determine the appropriate response (which may be done in consultation with the course lead faculty member and/or Clinical Coordinator).
- The student is responsible for any associated medical costs.

3. Transportation

- If emergency transport is required, it will be initiated by the clinical site or faculty.
- The student is responsible for any associated medical or transportation costs.

4. Incident Reporting

- The faculty will complete a written incident report, if warranted, per clinical site policy. They will also complete a written incident report for the University.
- If the incident included a bloodborne pathogen exposure, a report must be filed with the University Health Center (please see Section IV Bloodborne Pathogen Policy).
- A copy of the report will be placed in the student's confidential file.

5. Follow-Up and Clearance

- The student may be required to provide medical clearance from their healthcare provider before returning to clinical activities.
- Missed clinical time due to illness or injury will be addressed in accordance with the program's Clinical Requirements policy (Section IV).

6. Confidentiality

- All personal health information will be kept confidential and shared only with individuals involved in clinical coordination, as needed.

Student Responsibility

- Students are expected to maintain their health and to notify faculty and the Clinical Coordinator of any pre-existing or emerging health conditions that may affect their ability to participate safely in clinicals.
- Students are required to use their own personal health insurance for any treatment and/or cover any out-of-pocket medical expenses incurred as a result of illness or injury during clinical hours.

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