

## ***PRE-CLINICAL DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS GUIDELINES***

### **MALPRACTICE INSURANCE**

Hospitals and health agencies cooperating with the College of Nursing require students to carry malpractice insurance. If you wish to purchase malpractice insurance from the college submit the non-refundable \$15.00 fee (annual coverage). If you have malpractice insurance through an individual carrier, you must submit documentation from the carrier that your policy will cover your practice in the role of MSN student.

### **HEALTH APPRAISAL REQUIREMENTS**

All students in the MSN program who are involved in clinical nursing courses are required to have a physical examination on an annual basis. The findings are to be reported on the appropriate health forms. Participation in clinical activities is contingent upon satisfactory completion of all health requirements.

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR TB SKIN TEST**

All nursing students involved in clinical courses must present written documentation for Tuberculosis (TB) screening with negative results (or appropriate treatment if positive). Students will be required to obtain a two-step Tuberculin skin test before starting clinical rotations and are mandated to renew the Tuberculin one-step skin test once per year.\* The TB skin test must be valid through the clinical semester. Acceptable documentation consists of evidence of the TB test on letterhead from the facility that provided the test.

Students testing positive will be required to comply with the current Centers for Disease Control (CDC) treatment recommendations. Failure to comply with the CDC requirements will result in dismissal from the nursing program. Student who have had a positive TB skin test in the past will be required to get a chest x-ray. Clearance from a physician reading the chest-x-ray will be required. The physician will need to make recommendations regarding the need for a chest x-ray on an annual basis, or no further need for testing unless the person becomes symptomatic

\* If one verifies by supporting documentation a 2-step (14 days apart) PPD in the past with yearly PPDs thereafter, a current PPD is the only requirement. Yearly PPDs are required after admission.

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR MEASLES, MUMPS, RUBELLA (MMR)**

All nursing students involved in clinical courses must present written documentation of immunity to Measles (Rubeola), Mumps, and Rubella.

- Students born in 1957 or later must do one of the following to be considered immune to measles, mumps, or rubella:
  - Provide documentation of (a) physician-diagnosed measles or mumps disease
  - Provide laboratory evidence of measles, mumps, or rubella immunity from a blood sample titer
  - Provide evidence of appropriate vaccination against measles, mumps, and rubella (i.e., administration on or after the first birthday of two doses of live measles and mumps vaccines separated by 28 days or more, and at least one dose of live rubella vaccine).
- Students born in 1957 or later without serologic evidence of immunity or prior vaccination should receive 2 doses of MMR, 4 weeks apart.
- Students born before 1957 should discuss the need for MMR vaccination with their health care provider if they do not have a history of physician-diagnosed measles and mumps disease (or laboratory evidence of

immunity from blood sample titer) and do not have laboratory evidence of rubella immunity. These students may be particularly vulnerable in the event of a mumps outbreak.

If blood titers reveal an “indeterminate” or “equivocal” level of immunity, the student will be considered nonimmune. Further recommendations related to any of the above categories may be made by the student’s health care provider. As a result the student may be required to sign a “Low Titer Waiver”.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR TETANUS / DIPHTHERIA / PERTUSSIS (TD/TDAP)**

All nursing students involved in clinical courses must present written documentation for Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis. All students who have completed a primary series of a tetanus/diphtheria-containing product (DTP, DTaP, DT, Td) should receive Td boosters every 10 years.

Students should also be given a 1-time dose of Tdap as soon as feasible (give if TD booster has not been received in the last two years)

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR HEPATITIS B VACCINE**

Healthcare personnel (HCP) who perform tasks that may involve exposure to blood or body fluids should receive vaccination and demonstrate immunity toward Hepatitis B. This includes all nursing students involved in clinical courses. The following process should be followed by students of the CNHS:

1. Students should receive a 3-dose series of hepatitis B vaccine at 0-, 1-, and 6-month intervals.
2. Within 1-2 months following dose #3, the student should be tested for hepatitis B surface antibody (anti-HBs) to document immunity.
3. If the anti-HBs is less than 10 mIU/mL (negative) the student is unprotected from hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection; the student is required to revaccinate with a 3-dose series.
  - a. The student should then retest anti-HBs 1-2 months after dose #3 (of the second series).
  - b. If the anti-HBs is positive, the student is immune. No further testing or vaccination is recommended.
  - c. If the anti-HBs is negative following 6 doses of vaccine, the student is a “non-responder”.

Students who are non-responders are considered susceptible to HBV and should be aware regarding precautions to prevent HBV infection and the need to obtain HBIG prophylaxis for any known or probable parenteral exposure to hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg)-positive blood. It is also possible that non-responders are persons who are HBsAg positive. Testing should be considered and discussed with the student’s medical provider. Students who do not demonstrate immunity to Hepatitis B will be required to sign a “Low Titer Waver”.

**Note: Anti-HBs testing is not recommended routinely for previously vaccinated HCP who were not tested 1-2 months after their original vaccine series. These HCP should be tested for anti-HBs when they have an exposure to blood or body fluids. If anti-HBs negative, the HCP should be treated as if susceptible.**

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR VARICELLA VACCINE**

All nursing students involved in clinical courses must present written documentation of immunity to varicella. All nursing students enrolled in clinical courses must present written documentation of immunity to varicella (chickenpox) through one of the following:

- Having received 2 doses of varicella vaccine given at least 28 days apart
- Having had a physician diagnosis of a history of varicella or herpes zoster or laboratory confirmation of disease
- Demonstrate laboratory evidence of immunity

Before a student can receive the varicella vaccine, the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) requires a **negative varicella titer**. The ADPH guidelines state that individuals who receive their first dose of varicella vaccine after the thirteenth birthday must be given two doses at least one month apart.

If a blood titer test reveals a non-immune status, the student must follow the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommended guidelines and receive two (2) doses of vaccine. This is also a requirement from the clinical affiliates that are used for clinical.

## **CPR CERTIFICATION**

Graduate students enrolled in clinical nursing courses must maintain certification in CPR of adults and children. When registering for a clinical course, students must present documentation that CPR certification will be valid throughout the semester.

## **REQUIREMENT FOR DRUG SCREENING**

All students are expected to abide by the substance abuse control policy and any subsequent revisions to the policy, in order to participate or continue in the Jacksonville State University College of Nursing and Health Sciences programs. This includes drug screening prior to the first clinical experience and random drug screening. Drug screening is conducted in accordance with the Substance Abuse Policy.

## **REQUIREMENT FOR CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK**

In accordance with policies of affiliate agencies, all students are to be cleared through a criminal background check prior to engaging in clinical activities. (*JC Standard HR.01.02.05 requires a criminal background check for staff and students as well as volunteers who work in the same capacity as staff who provide care, treatment, and services.*)

Participation in clinical activities is mandatory for completion of course requirements. Students barred from participation in clinical activities will not be able to meeting course requirements, and will therefore be unable to successfully progress in the nursing curriculum.

Procedure:

1. Students will sign the appropriate permission form for the criminal background check.
2. All costs associated with obtaining the criminal background check will be assumed and paid by the student.
3. All criminal background checks must be completed through the contracted source of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.
4. Specific information obtained through criminal background checks will be shared with Jacksonville State University faculty. Specific information obtained through criminal background checks will not be shared with affiliate clinical agencies.
5. The Jacksonville State University College of Nursing and Health Sciences will provide appropriate documentation to affiliate clinical agencies confirming that all students participating in clinical activities have been cleared through an approved criminal background check.

## **HEALTH INSURANCE**

All students in the MSN program are required to have health insurance while attending clinicals. At the beginning of each semester, the student will complete and submit the "Health Insurance Form" to the course faculty, along with a health insurance card or copy of the check submitted to the insurance company for verification.