

NORTHLAND COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

3420 EXPOSURE TO POTENTIALLY INFECTIOUS MATERIALS

General Statement

The College recognizes that students enrolled in certain clinically based programs at Northland Community and Technical College may be exposed to bloodborne pathogens and other infectious materials during the course of their studies including performance of various technical skills and participation in classes at hospitals, clinics and other sites. Students must be made aware of the potential exposure to pathogens and other infectious materials, and precautions must be taken to avoid such exposure in the first place and to provide appropriate medical treatment if exposure occurs.

Such programs include, but may not be limited to:

Child Care Education, Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement, Dietetic Technician, Emergency Medicine Technician, Fire Technology, Health Information Technology, Nursing Assistant, Nursing (Registered Nurse), Occupational Therapy Assistant, Paramedicine, Phlebotomy, Pharmacy Technology, Physical Therapist Assistant, Practical Nursing, Radiologic Technology, Respiratory Care Practitioner, Surgical Technology.

Infectious Materials

Bloodborne Pathogens means pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood and can cause disease in humans. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Other Potentially Infectious Materials means (1) The following human body fluids: semen, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid, synovial fluid, pleural fluid, pericardial fluid, peritoneal fluid, amniotic fluid, saliva in dental procedures, any body fluid that is visibly contaminated with blood, and all body fluids in situations where it is difficult or impossible to differentiate between body fluids; (2) Any unfixed tissue or organ (other than intact skin) from a human (living or dead); and (3) HIV-containing cell or tissue cultures, organ cultures, and HIV- or HBV-containing culture medium or other solutions; and blood, organs, or other tissues from experimental animals infected with HIV or HBV.

Student Statement of Understanding and Release

The College shall advise each student enrolled in these clinically based programs at Northland of the potential exposure to bloodborne pathogens and other infectious materials. Each student shall sign a Release Form (Student Statement of Understanding and Release Form) acknowledging the risks of exposure to bloodborne pathogens and other infectious materials and assuming the risks of exposure as a condition of enrolling in a clinically based program. The College shall maintain the Release form.

Exposure Incident

An Exposure Incident means a specific eye, mouth, other mucous membrane, non-intact skin, or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials during the course of a student's studies or participation in a clinical course. Each student in a clinically based program who experiences an Exposure Incident shall immediately report such incident to the program instructor or clinical affiliate supervisor. The student shall complete a form, which will be provided by the College, regarding the incident. The incident report will be sent to the business office.

Date of Implementation:

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Executive Council Approval 05/18/06;

09/11/06 Added Physical Therapist Assistant, AAS to "General Statement"

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