



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

**Elson S. Floyd
College of Medicine**

Policy Title: Medical Student Training on Universal Precautions and Biohazards

Policy Number: EC.12.06.170815

Applies to: All WSU Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine Medical and Visiting Medical Students

Date: 4/10/2020

1.0 Policy Statement:

It is the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine policy that all medical students, enrolled and visiting, learn precautions and infection control measures for pathogens and environmental hazards prior to patient contact and throughout matriculation.

2.0 Definitions:

Precautions: A measure taken in advance to prevent something dangerous from happening.

Infection Control: Infection Control is the discipline concerned with preventing nosocomial or healthcare-associated infection, a practical (rather than academic) sub-discipline of epidemiology.

Pathogens: Bacteria, viruses, or other microorganisms that can cause disease.

Airborne Pathogens: The relevant pathogens may be viruses, bacteria, or fungi, and they may be spread through coughing, sneezing, raising of dust, spraying of liquids, or similar activities likely to generate aerosol particles or droplets.

Bloodborne Pathogen: Infectious microorganisms in human blood that can cause disease in humans. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B (HBV), hepatitis C (HCV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

Environmental Hazards: Substances, states or events which have the potential to threaten the surrounding natural environment and/or adversely affect people's health.

Universal Precautions: An approach to infection control to treat all human blood and certain human body fluids as if they were known to be infectious for HIV, HBV and other bloodborne pathogens.

3.0 Responsibility:

Senior Associate Dean, Admissions and Student Affairs

4.0 Procedures

Each student shares responsibility for his/her/their health and safety in the clinical/educational setting. Medical students are trained with universal precautions prior to orientation and includes several required online courses on prevention that are administered through CastleBranch. Students will take these courses on an annual basis for the remainder of their Medical Education. Documentation of training completion will be kept in CastleBranch for record management.

Visiting medical students, prior to participation in College of Medicine sponsored clinical activities, will need to provide proof of appropriate universal precautions and post exposure care training. Verification of awareness of the College of Medicine online

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policies and protocols regarding Universal Precautions and Biohazards is required. If the visiting medical student cannot provide proper documentation, they will be required to take the course required by ESFCOM medical students.

5.0 Related Policies

- EC.12.04.170815 Post Exposure Care Policy
- EC.12.07.170815 Communicable Disease Exposure Policy
- EC.12.05.170516 Immunizations and Tuberculosis Screening Policy

6.0 Key Search Words

Biohazard, universal precaution, pathogen, infection control
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7.0 Revision History

Original Approval	Policy number	Review/Revision
8/15/2017	EC.12.06.170815	04/10/2020

Responsible Office: Office of Admissions, Student Affairs, and Inclusion

Policy Contact: Assistant Dean Student Affairs

Supersedes: EC.12.06.170815 dated 8/15/2017