



Policy Summary Statement re: Visiting Students and Blood-Borne Pathogen Infection

All visiting students are required to sign this statement as a condition of enrollment

Demonstrated competence in Standard Precautions is required of all students in clinical programs of the University of Massachusetts School of Medicine.

Any student who may have exposed others to their blood or bodily fluids in a clinical situation has a professional responsibility to notify the patient's attending physician or supervising faculty member and to comply with the applicable reporting and follow-up policies and protocols of the clinical site where the incident occurred. As professionals concerned with the health of others, it is strongly recommended that students involved in such incidents consent to undergoing diagnostic testing for blood-borne pathogens as defined in the school's policy on "Medical Students with Blood Borne Pathogen Infection."

All visiting students must submit serologic confirmation of HBV surface antibody immunity to the UMMS Office of Student Affairs at the time of application. If, despite undergoing the complete HBV immunization series, a visiting student remains seronegative for HBV surface antibody, then the student must provide documentation of HBV surface antigen status. Although testing for hepatitis C and human immunodeficiency virus is not required for attendance at UMMS, it is the professional responsibility of any student who has risk factors for these diseases to make arrangements for serologic testing.

The University of Massachusetts is committed to a policy of non-discrimination and protecting the legal rights and privacy of students infected with blood-borne pathogens while also protecting the health of the public. A visiting student who is infected with a blood-borne pathogen [including but not limited to Hepatitis B virus (HBV), Hepatitis C virus (HCV), and Human Immunodeficiency virus (HIV)], may undertake clinical rotations at the University of Massachusetts School of Medicine; however, certain restrictions may be imposed on the scope of the infected student's training. Actual recommendations and advice to the student will depend on current medical findings and standards of practice.

Students who are infected with a blood-borne pathogen must avoid circumstances in which they could potentially transmit their infection to others. It is therefore the professional responsibility of visiting students who are infected with blood-borne pathogens to self identify and report their infection status to the Assistant Dean for Student Advising at least 2 months prior to starting a rotation at UMMS. **If, based on current established guidelines, a student is deemed as a significant risk for infecting others with a blood-born pathogen, that student will not be permitted to do rotations in any fields involving exposure-prone procedures.** This determination will be made on a case-by-case basis by the UMMS Blood-Borne Pathogen Review Panel.

In addition to the UMMS Policy, students on clinical rotations are also subject to the blood-borne pathogen policies for health care workers at the individual hospital or clinical sites.

I have received training in the principles of Standard Precautions. I will adhere to them at all times within educational and clinical settings. I have read, understand, and agree to adhere to the above Policy Statement on Visiting Students and Blood-Borne Pathogen Infection.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

*The complete 'UMMS Policy on Medical Students with Blood Borne Pathogen Infection' is available upon request.