

NEEDLE STICK POLICY FOR PRACTICAL NURSING STUDENTS

If the student experiences a contaminated needlestick or other type of acute injury, the faculty will immediately evaluate the student and provide first aid. The procedure following a needlestick on campus is as follows:

1. Wash the area immediately with soap and water.
2. Alert the faculty immediately.
3. Assist faculty with filling out an incident report.
4. Sign the incident report.
5. Both the student experiencing the needlestick and the person who is the source of exposure may seek medical attention immediately from either the Health Department or Personal Physician for HIV and Hepatitis B Testing at their own expense. If the needlestick injury occurs in the clinical setting, the nursing supervisor will be notified and the faculty and student will follow the policies set by the clinical agency.

Ohio Business College is not responsible for charges incurred as a result of acute injuries while in any learning environment including clinical. Students are responsible for their own medical expenses.

An Incident/Accident Report (see Appendix A) is completed and maintained in the Director of Nursing's office. The student should seek medical care from his/her own provider.

If the student shows manifestations of being ill or informs the faculty of being ill, the student may elect to seek care from his/her personal physician. Any costs incurred will be the responsibility of the student. Faculty reserves the right to request the student who exhibits signs and/or symptoms of an illness to leave the learning session. The student may be required to submit a note from the primary healthcare provider that states student responsibilities may be resumed without any restrictions before being permitted to return to the program. If an injury or illness interferes with a student's ability to meet the technical standards required for classroom, nursing simulation/skill laboratory, or clinical work, the student will not be permitted to attend. A student with physical restrictions is not permitted to attend clinical. The student must have a clearance from the primary healthcare provider that he/she is able to attend clinical and perform all patient-care responsibilities without limitations to be able to attend clinical.

If a student becomes ill at the clinical site, the faculty and student will follow the agency policy, especially when experiencing a needlestick, exposure to body fluids, or exposure to an infectious illness. It is the discretion of the faculty to determine if the student is permitted to remain on the clinical unit, or if the student should be sent home. The student is solely responsible for any resulting charges.

Needle Stick Policy for Practical Nursing Students

1. Wash the area immediately with soap and water.
2. Alert the instructor immediately.
3. Assist instructor with filling out an incident report.
4. Sign the incident report.
5. Both the student experiencing the needlestick and the person who is the source of exposure should seek medical attention immediately from either the Health Department or Personal Physician for HIV and Hepatitis B Testing. The student should also receive consultation regarding prophylactic treatment.

OBC will not be responsible for charges incurred as a result of this incident. Each student is responsible for their own medical expenses. This applies to both in-school activities and during externship and at clinical sites.

Acknowledgement of Student:

I, _____ have read and fully comprehend the above policy for accidental needle sticks.

Student's Signature: _____

OBC Instructor: _____

Date: _____