Purpose:

This policy applies to students entering and/or completing courses in the BSN Program approved by UBC Senate in February 2017.

The UBC School of Nursing (SoN) places nursing students in clinical sites for practice education. There are requisites, set in accordance with practice partners regulations and requirements, that must be met prior to entering the clinical sites to ensure patient and student safety. These activities and requisites are normally considered part of clinical learning time and are specified in the course syllabi, information regarding clinical practice sent to students from the Clinical Practice and Placement Unit (CPPU) and as listed online under Clinical Practice Learning.

Definitions:

“Requisites” is defined as any requirements of the School and/or the Health Authorities in order to engage in practice education. Such requisites may be applicable before the start of clinical practice and/or periodically throughout the program.

“Practice Education” (used interchangeably with “Clinical Practice”) is defined as learning at any clinical sites secured and deemed appropriate by the SoN, experiential learning in the laboratory, and simulation context.

Scope of Application:

This policy applies to all students entering or practicing in clinical practicums in the BSN program.

Policy:

a. Students must complete specific requisites prior to practice education placements and maintain currency as listed in communications to students regarding Clinical Practice Learning.

b. Requisites for clinical practice are subject to change and it is the student’s responsibility to be familiar with and up to date with the current requirements. For example, requisites can change under (but not limited to) the following:
   i. When there are requirements deemed necessary for safe practice by the SoN
   ii. When there are new requirements set by the Health Authorities and other practice partners.

Processes and Procedures:

a. The Undergraduate Program Committee (UPC) reviews clinical practice requisites and ensures integration with the BSN Program requirements.

b. The policy is operationalized by Course Leaders in collaboration with the Program Coordinator and the SoN Clinical Practice and Placement Unit (CPPU).
c. The CPPU notifies students regarding the requisites for practice learning at the beginning of each clinical practice course and as necessary when requirements change.

d. Students entering clinical practice must be adequately prepared and oriented to their practice settings to ensure safe integration of students into practice settings. Students will identify workplace health and safety policies and procedures in order to protect themselves, patients, and families.

e. Students cannot enter clinical practice if they fail to meet the requirements as set forth. This will delay their clinical learning experience and potentially impede their ability to meet the course learning objectives in order to successfully pass the course.

f. The requirements for clinical practice as set by the SoN and by Health Authority placement settings vary over time and are subject to change. While the requirements may be generally applicable across settings there may be additional or variations of requirements for different practice settings. Students may occasionally be required to meet additional requisites for practice not specifically listed, for example glucometer training. All requisites are guided by the principles stated in this policy and the SoN will communicate additional requirements as they arise.

Related Policies:

SoN Policy: Clinical Practice Grading
SoN Policy: Challenges in Meeting Clinical Practice Competencies
SoN Policy: BSN Missed Clinical Practice & Laboratory Experience Time policy
SoN Policy: Progression and Advancement in the BSN Program

References

Health Sciences Placement Network (HSPnet), (n.d.)
Managing Practice Education. hspcanada.net – PHSA

Student Practice Education Core Orientation (SPECO) Q&A, (2012)
Vancouver Coastal Health, Fraser Health, Provincial Health Services Authority, and Providence Health Care