Student Injury during Clinical Practice Experience

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to detail a clear process for reporting and follow up of a student injury that occurs during clinical practice. An injury may be any injury that occurs during clinical practice and includes injuries such as musculo-skeletal injury to the back or shoulder, or needle stick injury.

Clinical practice for the purpose of this policy is defined in the UBC document, WorkSafeBC coverage for practicum/clinical placement student.

Clinical practice is a required component of the nursing programs and can occur either on-site at UBC premises or off-site.

Scope of Application

This policy applies to any student injury that occurs in any clinical practice setting while the student is present as a nursing student.

Policy

When an injury occurs in clinical practice the student must follow the UBC policy for reporting and follow up of the injury and in some cases the student must also follow the agency policy. The following steps are taken:

1. The student must report any injury to the Clinical Instructor immediately. The Clinical Instructor and the student are responsible for knowing the protocol and guidelines within the agency, and UBC policy for reporting injury.

2. All injuries require reporting as per the UBC policy. The injuries are reported using the forms and process described on the UBC Risk Management website

3. Injuries that are a critical exposure (Blood and Body Fluid) are followed up through the agency as well as the UBC reporting system. For critical exposure injuries it is required that a student report to the nearest Emergency Department (ER) within 2 hours. Reporting of the exposure in ER also requires the completion of the following forms that are provided in ER:

   a. HLTH 2339 – Management of Percutaneous or Permucosal Exposure to Blood and Body Fluid/Laboratory Requisition (Ministry of Health Services, 2005/04/12) and
b. **HLTH 2340** – Management of Percutaneous or Permucosal Exposure to Blood and Body Fluid: Letter for Follow-Up Physician (Ministry of Health Service, 2004/08/20)

4. In the event of a critical exposure, the student is required to follow the process outlined above and in Appendix A, and it is recommended that the student have on-going follow up with UBC Student Health service or their primary care provider (Nurse Practitioner or Family Physician). For a critical exposure incident there is a protocol for on-going medical follow-up, possible drug therapy and counselling and student health is available to provide this service for all health science students.

**Related policies**

- [BC Practice Education Guidelines](#)
- [Risk management UBC site-reporting incidents and injuries](#)

**Resources**

- [BC Centre for Disease Control](#)

**Policy monitoring and evaluation**

This policy will be reviewed annually by UPPC & GPC, in collaboration with the SoN Health & Safety committee, and revised as needed.
Appendix A: Flow Sheet for Student Injury

**BBF Exposure**

**STUDENT/EXPOSED PERSON**

- Cleanse affected area per Health Care Organization BBF protocol. Report to Clinical Instructor/supervisor.

- Contact First Aid/Medical attendant as per site protocol. Report to Clinical Instructor/Faculty/Supervisor and notify the person in charge of the work area where the exposure occurred.

- Report to nearest ER within 2 hours of exposure. Obtain BBF reporting package in ER.

- Complete HLTH 2339 form “Exposed person information”, “Exposure information” and “Blood testing” sections.

- Be seen by ER Physician or N.P. Have blood work taken if determined necessary.

- Contact Student Health or Primary care provider the next business day for follow-up.

- Bring HLTH 2339 (Pink copy) and HLTH 2340 (from Physician) (White copy) to follow up appointments.

- Complete **UBC Practicum/Clinical placement student’s report of occupational injury or disease on-line form** as per page 1 of this policy.

**FACULTY/SUPERVISOR**

- Escort to ER if needed. Assist to complete HLTH 2339.

- Assist student in completing UBC reporting forms.

- Complete **UBC Practicum Supervisor/Preceptor occupational injury or disease on-line form** as per page 1 of this policy 

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Flow chart adapted from Practice Education Guidelines for BC – Injury and Exposure to Blood/Body Fluids, GL #3-5, October, 2014.
Appendix B: Flow Sheet for Student Injury

Other Injury
(e.g. musculo-skeletal)

STUDENT/EXPOSED PERSON

- Report to Clinical Instructor/Supervisor
- Seek First Aid/Medical treatment if needed

Complete UBC Practicum/Clinical placement student’s report of occupational injury or disease on-line form as per page 1 of this policy

FACULTY/SUPERVISOR

- Escort to ER if needed
- Assist student in completing UBC reporting forms

Complete UBC Practicum Supervisor/Preceptor occupational injury or disease on-line form as per page 1 of this policy

Approved by UPPC & GPC, Nov 2014; and by Faculty Caucus, Dec 2014.

Flow chart adapted from Practice Education Guidelines for BC – Injury and Exposure to Blood/Body Fluids, GL #3-5, October, 2014.