

Creighton University School of Medicine

Medical Education Program Policies

POLICY: Student Exposure to Infectious and Environmental Hazards

GOVERNING BODY: Educational Program Committee

APPROVAL DATE: 11/26/2019

REVISED DATE: N/A

LCME ACCREDITATION STANDARD REFERENCE: Element 12.8 Student Exposure Policies/Procedures

PURPOSE

The School of Medicine is committed to reducing the risk to its medical students arising from infectious and environmental hazards.

POLICY

To fulfill its commitment, the medical education program will:

- educate medical students about methods of prevention (see the Required Safety Training Policy).
- educate students about the procedures for care and treatment after exposure, including the definition of financial responsibility.
- define the effects of infectious and/or environmental disease or disability on medical student learning activities.

PROCEDURE

1. Procedures for care and treatment after exposure to infectious or environmental hazards:

A. While a student is on the Creighton University Campus:

In the event of exposure to an infectious or environmental hazard, the student should immediately go to the Creighton University Medical Center—University Campus Emergency Room for evaluation and treatment.

B. While on the campus of a primary clinical affiliate, including

CHI Health—Bergan Mercy Medical Center

CHI Health—Immanuel Medical Center

CHI Health—Lakeside

CHI Health—Mercy Council Bluffs

CHI Health—Midlands

Methodist Hospital

Omaha Veterans Administration Medical Center

Children’s Hospital and Medical Center (Omaha)

Dignity St. Joseph’s

Valleywise Health

Phoenix Children’s Hospital

In the event of exposure to an infectious or environmental hazard, the student should follow the clinical affiliate exposure protocols, which are available in the associated Guideline “Student Exposure to Infectious and Environmental Hazards.”

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C. While a student is at another clinical or academic site not listed above:

In the event of exposure to an infectious or environmental hazard, the student should complete the following actions:

- a. follow the exposure protocols for the clinical site if available.
- b. determine if the clinical site has a process to address the infectious or environmental hazard and, if not, immediately go to the nearest Emergency Department for evaluation and treatment.

2. Financial responsibility for cost of treatment after an infectious or environmental exposure:

- All full-time Creighton students are required to have comprehensive inpatient and outpatient health insurance.
- Charges for evaluation and treatment should be submitted to the student's health insurance.
- Prescribed initial diagnostic testing and initial prophylactic treatment, which is not paid by the student's insurer, will be paid for by the school until the source test results are received, but for no longer than five (5) business days. This includes payment for any student co-pays and deductibles incurred during the first five days after initial diagnostic testing and initiation of prophylactic treatment.
- All other evaluation and treatment services and/or prophylactic treatments ordered are the responsibility of the student or his/her insurer.

3. Effects of infectious and/or environmental disease or disability on medical student learning activities:

Any impact of infectious or environmental disease or disability on a medical student's participation in the medical education program will follow the program's "Disabilities Policy," "Attendance Policy and Absence Request Procedure," "Suspension, Withdrawal, Dismissal Policy," and "Temporary Withdrawals Policy."

Students will receive this information in orientation and in the annual review and attestation of receipt of the Student Handbook.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all students that are accepted and enrolled in the medical education program and to visiting students.

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ADMINISTRATION AND INTERPRETATION

The Office of Student Affairs is responsible for the administration and interpretation of this policy. Please forward questions to the Associate Dean for Student Affairs.

AMENDMENT

This policy may be amended by majority vote of the School of Medicine Educational Program Committee.