

BETH-EL COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES

Undergraduate Nursing Student Policy and Procedure

Policy Title: Health Issues during the Clinical/Practicum Rotation

Date of Origin (if available):

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Policy: A student in a clinical/practicum rotation will be held responsible for the notification to the instructor of any physical and /or behavioral health condition that may affect his or her own performance or the safety of patients and employees. Included in this policy is the right of the clinical instructor to assess and take action on any physical and/or behavioral health change that is noticed or brought to the attention of the instructor.

Procedure:

Change in Physical and/or Behavioral Health Condition

- If the student is ill and unable to report for clinical/practicum/practicum assignment, the student will notify the instructor and the clinical/practicum area at least one hour prior to the time of expected arrival.
- During the clinical/practicum assignment, any change in health condition should be reported immediately to the instructor in the clinical/practicum area. The instructor will arrange for emergency care at the clinical site if necessary and notify the clinical/practicum unit where the student is assigned. The student will be billed for personal medical care. Non-work-related illness or injury is not covered under the University insurance program in required clinical rotations. The Student Injury/Needlestick/Exposure form should be completed and returned to the Nursing Department.
- If a student contracts Chickenpox or shingles, the student is to remain out of class/clinical. The student will be allowed to return to class and clinical practicum when the Chickenpox or shingles lesions have scabbed over, typically in 6 to 7 days after the onset of the rash.
- Students with any contagious disease or skin lesions (including but not limited to staphylococcal or herpetic lesions) will need to be evaluated by their health care professional or at the student health center prior to attending clinical.
- If considered necessary, the clinical instructor may release a student from the clinical assignment for the day. Consult the Classroom & Clinical Attendance/Absence policy and the course syllabus for clinical makeup allowances.

Rationale: Public safety and personal health are valued aspects of nursing. Professional

behavior requires that students consider the patient, the employees of a clinical facility rotation and their own health and self-care while enrolled in a clinical component of a course.

Key Words: Health, illness, sickness, contagious diseases, clinical absence