

**North Florida Community College
Emergency Medical Services Programs**

UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS – Exposure control Policy

North Florida Community College EMS Programs, involve clinical experiences in which students may be assigned to administer care to individuals who are HIV(Human Immunodeficiency Virus) seropositive, or who have ARC (Aids Related Complex) or AIDS. Students will, in every case, be expected to follow all recommended guidelines for prevention of HIV transmission.

North Florida Community College EMS Programs involve clinical and laboratory experiences which could be a potential health hazard to students who have compromised immune systems. Students who have AIDS, ARC, or who are positive for HIV should be aware of the potential health hazards to which they are exposed.

North Florida Community College EMS students and faculty will follow the recommended guidelines for “Prevention of HIV Transmission in Health Care Settings.” Published by the CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL, Atlanta, Georgia, as well as policies of the various institutions in which we have clinical experience. Policies will be updated as new information related to prevention and treatment of HIV becomes available.

To standardize the delivery of health care to all patients and to minimize the risk of transmission of HIV, Allied Health students will:

- Be taught basic skills in isolation techniques according to CDC specifications, and handling of body fluids in the skills laboratory before actual clinical practice of these skills on a patient.
- Be provided classroom instruction related to HIV treatment, modes of transmission and prevention.
- Receive hospital policies for blood and body fluid precautions consistently on all patients.
 - Gloves should be worn when touching blood and body fluids, mucous membranes or non-intact skin of all patients, or when touching items or surfaces soiled with blood or body fluids (including performing Veni-puncture and other vascular access procedures).
 - Hands should be washed immediately before gloving and again after removing gloves. Hands should also be washed immediately and thoroughly when contaminated with blood or body fluids.
 - Gloves should be changed between each patient.
 - Gowns or plastic aprons, masks, and protective eyewear should be worn for any procedures likely to result in or prone to splashing of blood or body fluids.
 - Used needles should not be recapped, purposely bent or broken by hand, removed from disposable syringes, or manipulated by hand. Disposable needles, syringes, scalpel blades and other sharp items should be placed in puncture resistant containers for disposal.

- Soiled linen should be handled as little as possible with minimum agitation. All soiled linen should be bagged and tied closed at the location where it was used.
- Gloves are to be worn for post-delivery care of the umbilical cord and until all blood and amniotic fluid have been cleaned from the infant's skin.
- When universal blood and body fluids precautions are implemented on all patients, isolation/labeling of the patient's room, chart, or specimens is not to be done. Upon death, state law requires that a tag be affixed to the body of anyone known to have blood born pathogens.
- Specimens of blood and body fluids should be placed in a leak proof container. When collecting the specimen, care should be taken to prevent contamination of the outside of the container. All containers (except blood tubes) should be placed in a zip-lock bag.
- Mouthpieces and resuscitation bags should be used in place of mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.
- A hospital and college incident report is to be completed if the student is exposed to blood or body fluids through needle sticks or cuts, mucous membrane (splash to the eyes or mouth), or cutaneous (through the skin which is chapped, abraded or has dermatitis) means. Follow up screening will be recommended according to hospital/school guidelines. The student will pay the cost of the follow up.
- Follow CDC's Universal Precautions on all patients and follow precautions for invasive procedures.
- Students must maintain health insurance coverage while participating in EMS clinicals.

INFECTIOUS EXPOSURE/WASTE MANAGEMENT

EMS faculty follows OSHA recommended guidelines in the lab setting. Details of the EMS lab rules and regulations are posted in the EMS lab and will be reviewed the first week of lab class.

Each clinical site will review their Exposure/Waste Management Policy during that clinical site's orientation meeting.

During clinical rotations and the Paramedic Practicum, a uniform may become soiled. If the uniform becomes soiled with blood or bodily fluids, it is to be placed in a leak-proof bag, and the student is responsible for decontamination per OSHA guidelines. Launder following manufacturer's guidelines for laundry soap and bleach amounts. If further information is needed regarding decontamination, contact may be made with any of NFCC's EMS faculty.

A second uniform is recommended. If the student does not have an additional uniform to change into once the initial uniform has become soiled, the student will be sent home immediately.

Use of personal protective equipment (PPE), (i.e.: gloves, face shield, gown) as needed when exposure to blood and bodily fluids exists is required. ***FAILURE TO USE PPE WILL RESULT IN THE STUDENT BEING SENT HOME FOR REMAINDER OF ASSIGNED SHIFT.*** Incident will be documented by clinical instructor/preceptor and clinical coordinator will be notified. Student will not be allowed to return to clinicals/practicum until the matter is resolved with clinical coordinator.

The following may be required as directed by clinical sites. *All EMS students must be free of all facial hair prior to fit testing for the Raal NIOSH-approved Respirator Mask. This mask is required at all clinical sites. (Moustaches are allowed, but must not extend past the corners of the mouth.)*

NORTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

POLICY TITLE: EXPOSURE TO INFECTIOUS DISEASES PLAN

PURPOSE: The Emergency Medical Services program, a division of North Florida Community College, recognizes that the students who participate in the programs offered will have direct contact with patients in a health care setting. It is possible that some of the patients cared for will have an infectious disease, as defined by the Center for Disease Control (CDC). It is further possible that a student might become exposed to an infectious disease. It is the purpose of this policy to outline the process that must be followed to assure the health and safety of the students who progress through the Emergency Medical Services Technology programs.

Definition:

Exposure: The process of contact with a blood borne or airborne pathogen that is capable of causing an infectious disease, as defined by the CDC. This contact can occur from, but is not limited to, a needle stick, spray of blood onto exposed mucous membranes, or breathing within a confined space while exposed to a patient who has an infectious respiratory ailment.

POLICY:

- Students are to be taught universal / standard precautions prior to their entry into a clinical setting.
- Students are to use the appropriate precautions while in clinical settings. If the student is unsure of what precautions are necessary, they are to check with their preceptor prior to initiating contact with the patient.
- Any student who is either exposed, or believes that they have been exposed, needs to follow the procedure as defined below.

PROCEDURE:

HOSPITAL EXPOSURE:

- 1) The EMS Instructor or Coordinator is to be notified immediately.
- 2) The student will be directed to be seen in the Emergency Room immediately.
- 3) A Clinical Exposure Form will be initiated by:
 - For EMT: the EMS Coordinator or designee
 - For Paramedic: the EMS Faculty at the hospital, and forwarded to the EMS Coordinator
- 4) The student will be directed to follow the advice of the Emergency Room Physician and to further follow up with the hospital's occupational health department.
- 5) The Clinical Exposure Form will be forwarded to the EMS Coordinator for review and signature.
- 6) The completed Clinical Exposure Form will be filed in the student's file.

EMS INTERNSHIP EXPOSURE:

- 1) The EMS Coordinator is to notified immediately.
- 2) The student will be directed to be seen in the Emergency Room immediately.
- 3) A Clinical Exposure Form is to be initiated by the EMS Coordinator.
- 4) The student will be directed to follow the advise of the Emergency Room Physician and to further follow up with the hospital's occupational health department (as is required by the Ryan White Act).
- 5) The Clinical Exposure Form will be forwarded to the EMS Coordinator for review and signature.
- 6) The completed Clinical Exposure Form will be filed in the student's file.

Approved by:

EMS Coordinator:

Medical Director:

Date Review/Revised: 05/30/02, reviewed/revised: 08/20/03, reviewed/revised 07/28/08

**North Florida Community College
EMS Student Clinical Exposure /Needle Stick Notification**

Student Name _____ **SSN** _____

Class/Clinical Location _____

Date of Exposure/Needle Stick _____

Time of Exposure/Needle Stick _____

Date Exposure/Needle Stick Reported _____

Time Exposure Reported _____

**If above dates/times conflict, describe why _____

Type of exposure/Needle Stick _____

Describe events leading up to the exposure/Needle Stick _____

Protective equipment utilized _____

Future preventive measures _____

Student advised to follow up with further medical evaluation?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A _____

Student Signature _____ EMS Faculty

Date Received _____

Albert "Mac" Leggett EMS Coordinator – Phone 973-1673

Follow-up Action:

Post Plan Follow Up Recommended:

**North Florida Community College
EMS Student Injury Notification**

Student Name _____ **SSN** _____

Class/Clinical Location _____

Date of Injury _____ Time of Injury _____

Date Injury Reported _____ Time Injury Reported _____

**If above dates/times conflict, describe why _____

Describe type/location of injury _____

Describe events leading up to the injury _____

EMS notified? Yes _____ No _____ Transported to _____

In hospital treatment provided? Yes _____ No _____

Hospital Department _____

Name or Nurse/Doctor providing care _____

Briefly describe medical treatment rendered _____

Student advised to follow up with further medical evaluation?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A _____

Additional comments _____

Student Signature

EMS Faculty

Date Received _____

Date Received _____

EMS Coordinator

Albert "Mac" Leggett EMS Coordinator – Phone 973-1673

Follow-up Action:



