

THE CARE OF PATIENTS AND STUDENT'S RIGHTS

Regional West Medical Center and the other clinical educational settings identified by the Program expect the students in the Program to provide quality medical care to all patients at all times.

Responsibility: Students, Program Officials
Standard: Human Resources

THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO WORK WITH PATIENTS/EMPLOYEES WITH INFECTIOUS/COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

1. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students in the Regional West Medical Center School of Radiologic Technology will not discriminate against any patient, employee, student or applicant because he/she may have an infectious/communicable disease. Persons in the clinical educational setting and classroom with an infectious/communicable disease will be treated the same as persons with any other illness.
2. Regional West Medical Center School of Radiologic Technology recognizes the rights and concerns of patients and students who may have an infectious/communicable disease. The Program also recognizes the obligation to provide a safe environment for students, employees, patients, the public and acknowledges that patients' and students' health conditions are personal and confidential.

No student shall be required to submit to tests to determine whether he or/she has an infectious/communicable condition as a requirement to begin or maintain enrollment at Regional West Medical Center School of Radiologic Technology except for the infectious/communicable diseases stated in Regional West Medical Center's Policy #206.0.01. A student with infectious/communicable conditions shall not be denied continued enrollment in the Program as long as he or she is able to meet acceptable performance standards and medical evidence indicates his or her condition is not a threat to the student or others. If possible, an effort will be made to modify duties based on medical recommendations. Such determination will be made on a case-by-case basis according to the hospital infection control policy.

3. There is no medical evidence to support a student refusing to work with patients, employees or other students who may have infectious/communicable diseases or other related conditions because of the fear of acquiring the disease or condition or other reasons. Nevertheless, the concerns of a student will be taken seriously and will be addressed with appropriate information and/or counseling. Should the student, after receiving information and counseling, refuse to perform the

assigned task in the clinical setting, he or she will be subject to corrective action in the same manner as any other student who refuses to comply with supervising technologist's direction in the clinical educational setting.

4. A student will have direct supervision in any occasion where the patient has been identified as having a disease process that places the patient in an isolation category.

THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY DUE TO PERCEIVED CONFLICT WITH CULTURAL VALUES, ETHICS, OR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS

1. If a student accepts an offer of enrollment in the Program, he or she is expected to perform all aspects of the position regardless of the treatment he or she must give, the duty required, or the medical condition of the patient. Any refusal to perform a clinical assignment relating to the care of a patient can result in corrective action that may include dismissal from the Program.
2. A student may request to be excused from participating in an aspect of care due to conflicting cultural values, ethics or religious beliefs. The request must be approved before the student is excused from participating in the aspect deemed to be a conflict. These situations may include assisting in the actual procedure of therapeutic abortions, participation in religious/cultural rites or beliefs held within the institution (baptisms, etc.), or other similar situations.

To be excused, a student must make a formal request to the Program Director, which would include a description of the conflict and the aspects of the clinical assignment he/she cannot perform. If the Program Director is not available, the Chief Clinical Preceptor or the Imaging Services Department Director should be contacted for such a request. If the conflict cannot be resolved by the Program Director, Chief Clinical Preceptor or the Imaging Services Department Director to the satisfaction of the student, the student should follow the Grievance Policy.

3. A patient's care in the department will not be compromised due to a student request for accommodation. Reasonable efforts will be made to provide accommodation to the student. If it is determined that an accommodation cannot be provided, the student is expected to continue to perform all aspects of his or her clinical responsibilities.

Refer to Regional West Health Services Policy 500.4.01, Patients' Rights and Responsibilities.

Signature
Stephanie Cannon, MSRS, RT(R)(ARRT)
Program Director

Signature
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Director of Imaging Services

Reference: Regional West Health Services Policy 500.4.01

Reviewed: 5/11/95, 12/6/99, 7/31/01, 3/26/03, 6/28/05, 3/29/07, 07/02/09, 1/28/10, 7/14/11, 6/14/12,
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