
Standard A3.05 The program publishes, makes readily available, and consistently applies policies addressing student exposure to infectious and environmental hazards before students undertake any educational activities that would place them at risk. Those policies:

- a) address methods of prevention
- b) address procedures for care and treatment after exposure
- c) clearly define financial responsibility

LR MSPAS Student Policy Manual Section 4.11.6 OSHA Training

The PA Program will provide appropriate training to students regarding Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) standards at the beginning of the didactic year and prior to the clinical year. The facility at which the rotation/ clinical experience takes place shall provide to PA students access to the facility's rules, regulations, policies and procedures with which the PA students are expected to comply, including, the facility's OSHA standards, personal and workplace security and personal safety policies and procedures and shall address all appropriate safety measures for all PA students and any instructors on site.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has defined requirements which specify the protective measures all healthcare personnel are required to perform in order to prevent the spread of communicable disease. All students must participate in mandatory training arranged by Lenoir-Rhyne University MSPAS program and College of Health Sciences.

Blood-borne Pathogens Training is required prior to participation in clinical and/or patient related activities. Training includes proper handwashing, use of personal protective equipment, isolation precautions, and other information targeted at exposure risk reduction. Students must successfully complete the course to meet this requirement to be allowed to participate in any clinical or patient-related activity. Students must submit proof of completion to the program.

Students must keep documentation of training. Each clinical site reserves the right to require a student to provide proof of training. They may also require the student to participate in additional training.

4.11.7 Biohazard Exposures (Standard A3.05)

When a student sustains an injury on campus or during off-site clinical activities, the primary financial responsibility usually lies with the student's personal accident or group health insurance. Students should maintain appropriate personal health coverage, as this insurance serves as the primary source for any injuries that may occur during their training, whether in simulation labs or clinical settings. In the event of occupational exposure to a biohazard while on campus or during the didactic year, students must follow the following guidelines for managing, reporting, and documenting the incident:

1. The program requires students to notify the Instructor of Record and the Program Director as soon as possible of the incident and seek their guidance in complying with all

policies. The Dean of Students and the Student Health Center at the University will also be notified of the incident.

2. The student should complete with assistance from faculty a PA Program Incident Report found in Appendix 3 of the LR MSPAS Student Policy Manual.
3. If the need arises, the PA program faculty shall provide students with access to emergency care; however, the student shall incur the cost of all emergency services rendered. **(Standard A3.06)** precludes principal faculty, the program director and the medical director from participating as health care providers for students in the program, except in an emergency situation.)
4. The student will be directed to seek care from their primary care provider or one of the local hospital emergency rooms in consultation with University Student Health Center.
5. The student shall incur the cost of any treatment and follow-up care as a result of exposure/injury.

The program holds responsibility for storage and use of any hazardous materials. The program will follow OSHA guidelines for the storage, use of any hazardous materials and the use of standard precautions. The program requires vinyl or nitrile gloves as part of personal protective equipment (PPE).

In the event of occupational exposure to a biohazard while on clinical experience, students must follow the clinical site's guidelines for managing, reporting, and documenting the incident:

1. The student must inform the clinical instructor/preceptor of the incident and seek their guidance in complying with all site-specific policies.
2. If the need arises, clinical sites shall provide students with access to emergency care; however, the student shall incur the cost of all emergency services rendered.
3. Worker compensation benefit does not cover these events; therefore, the student also incurs the cost of any follow-up care as a result of exposure/injury.
4. The student should notify the Director of Clinical Education of the incident immediately, but no later than 2 hours after the occurrence and complete a **PA Program Incident Report found in the Appendix 3 of the LR MSPAS Student Policy Manual.**

4.11.8 Injury or Medical Emergencies of a Student During Program Activities

1. The faculty member and/or supervising clinical personnel will only assess whether the student can remain in the classroom or clinical area.
2. If the student requests medical care, the faculty member and/or supervising clinical personnel may assist the student in obtaining appropriate care.
3. An Incident Report must be filled out by the student and MSPAS personnel within 24 hours and turned into the Program Director.
4. Based on the extent of the injury or medical emergency, MSPAS personnel may not allow the student to participate in class.

5. In the case of injury or medical emergency, the student incurs the cost of emergency medical services whether participating in an on- or off-campus education experience.
6. The principal faculty, program director and medical director cannot act as healthcare providers for students except in an emergency. **(Standard A3.06)**
7. The Program recommends students see their own health care provider for follow up care.
8. If any emergency medical assistance is required call 911 and provide the location. LR Campus Security should be notified at 828.328.7146 if injury or emergency occurs on campus or in the Powell Health Science Complex.

When a student sustains an injury on campus or during off-site clinical activities, the primary financial responsibility usually lies with the student's personal accident or group health insurance. Students should maintain appropriate personal health coverage, as this insurance serves as the primary source for any injuries that may occur during their training, whether in simulation labs or clinical settings.

10.3.11.2 Student Injury or Medical Emergency During a Clinical Affiliation

1. The preceptor/supervising clinical personnel will handle student injuries according to policies of the clinical site
 - a. For example, there may be triage for the extent of injury to determine if the student can remain in the clinical area
2. If the student requests/needs medical care during time on site with a clinical affiliate, the preceptor/supervising clinical personnel will assist the student in obtaining appropriate care
3. The program faculty, DCE, and/or preceptor/supervising clinical personnel have the right to not allow the student to participate in class based on the extent of the injury
4. In the case of emergency or injury, the student is responsible for the cost of emergency services in off-campus education experience
5. It is recommended that the student see their own health care provider for follow-up care
6. The student and DCE will complete necessary paperwork required by the clinical affiliate as well as the PA Program Incident Form, due to the Program Director within 24 hours of the incident/emergency/injury.

10.3.11.3 Injury from Sharps/Need stick, and/or Exposed Mucous Membrane

1. If exposed to blood or body fluid, follow Center for Disease Control and Prevention current guidelines
2. Inform preceptor ASAP and follow clinical site affiliate's guidelines
3. Complete the PA Program's Incident Report form and return it to the Program as directed.

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- a. You may also have to complete the clinical site's Incident Report form as well and if possible, send a copy of this form to the PA Program in addition to the program's form.
 4. Blood Borne Pathogens Information https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/healthcare/risk-factors/infectious-agents.html?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/bbp/emergnedl.html
 5. Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAIs) https://www.cdc.gov/healthcare-associated-infections/?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/hai/prevent/ppe.html
 6. Updated U.S. Public Health Service guidelines for the management of occupational exposures to HIV and recommendations for postexposure prophylaxis. <https://stacks.cdc.gov/view/cdc/20711>