

CT HANDBOOK: CLINICAL COMPLIANCE

Clinical Compliance

Incidents

As general policy, CT students will comply with the policies and procedures with the clinical site at which they are assigned. It is the policy that there be written reports of all unusual incidents/accidents. An incident is an unusual occurrence which is not consistent with the routine operation of the institution or clinical rotation which may or did cause harm, involves possible negligence, requires some immediate consideration or action by a supervisor.

A student is expected to provide prompt, complete and accurate written documentation of the details related to any accidents/incidents, thus enabling corrective actions and/or programs for prevention. Students with signs and symptoms of an infectious process should report immediately to the program director for appropriate referral.

All incidents must immediately be reported to the technical supervisor or immediate person in charge. Proper report forms must be completed.

Equipment Use and Operation

The professions in Medical Imaging and Therapeutic Sciences employ the use of highly specialized equipment. Any equipment failure or equipment that is not in proper working order must be reported immediately to the technical supervisor. Do not place any calls to equipment representatives. Do not attempt to repair.

Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Plan for Students

UNMC's Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure policy (https://wiki.unmc.edu/index.php/Bloodborne_Pathogens_Exposure/) will be followed.

Radiation Protection

It is each student's responsibility to adhere to the following guidance for radiation protection:

1. Students must practice safe radiation and protection criteria and practice the principles of ALARA at all times. These are found in the UNMC Radiation Safety Manual available online at www.unmc.edu/ehs.
2. The principles of decreased time and increased distance and shielding shall be employed when working with radiation.
3. The spread of any accidental contamination from radioactive materials will be decreased by frequent personnel monitoring and hand washing.
4. Radiation exposure is measured by personnel monitoring device; therefore, they must be worn at all times within the department. Personnel monitoring devices are to be worn at the collar. It is the student's responsibility to exchange badges on a quarterly basis

with person designated by the Radiation Safety Office (RSO) for each program.

5. If your personnel monitoring device is lost or left where it can be exposed unknowingly, contact the respective program director immediately.
6. In accordance with the philosophy of keeping exposures ALARA (As Low As Reasonably Achievable), the Radiation Safety Office has established levels at which the dosimetry company will provide immediate notification of a higher than normal reading. These notification levels are presently as follows:

Dose Type		
Evaluation Level	Investigation Level	
DDE (whole body) mrem (6 mSv)	300 mrem (3 mSv)	600
LDE (lens of eye) mrem (15 mSv)	900 mrem (9 mSv)	1500
SDE (skin or extremity) mrem (20 mSv)	900 mrem (9 mSv)	2000
Declared Pregnant Woman (0.5 mSv)	40 mrem (0.4 mSv)	50 mrem

ALARA DOSE LIMITS (PER MONITORING PERIOD)

Any doses above the ALARA Evaluation Level require that the Radiation Safety Officer review the circumstances pertaining to this dose and determine if additional actions need to be taken or if further investigation is required. An investigation requires that the Radiation Safety Officer investigate the cause of the dose and steps that may be required to prevent this dose level in the future with consideration of cost and scientific impact. All doses above the ALARA action levels will be reported to the Radiation Safety Committee.

The Radiation Safety Committee may alter these values based on regulatory or departmental concerns. When an individual exceeds any one of these levels, a follow-up survey may be conducted to determine if a reduction in dose can be reasonably achieved.

For further information regarding personnel monitoring of ionizing radiation, refer to the UNMC Radiation Safety Manual (<https://www.unmc.edu/ehs/>) or contact the Radiation Safety Office.

If a student becomes pregnant, she is encouraged to voluntarily consult with the program director concerning the most appropriate procedure to assure that exposure to the fetus is less than 0.5 rem (refer to Pregnancy Policy below).

Pregnancy

The pregnancy policy is a voluntary program intended to provide safety for pregnant students and their fetus who are considered occupationally exposed to ionizing radiation. In the event of a suspected or confirmed pregnancy, it is the responsibility of the student to advise her program director in writing of her condition. Pregnancy will not affect the student's enrollment in the academic courses in the program. However, due to the physical requirements placed upon the student in the clinical courses and assignments, and in order to comply with 180 NAC 004.13 (10 CFR Part

20.1208) to keep the radiation exposure to the fetus as low as reasonably achievable (no more than 500 mrem during the entire gestation period), the following procedures will apply:

1. The student may voluntarily report suspected or confirmed pregnancy to the program director. At that time the UNMC/Nebraska Medicine policies and procedures and the CT Program Specific Student Policies and Procedures Manual pregnancy policy will be reviewed with the student. Once the student has elected to declare suspected or confirmed pregnancy, the student should:
2. Complete the "UNIVERSITY of NEBRASKA MEDICAL CENTER DECLARATION OF PREGNANCY" form and forward it to the Radiation Safety Office.
3. The Radiation Safety Office will determine the estimated radiation dose from time of conception to the date of declaration based on dosimetry records and calculate the permissible remaining dose to the embryo/fetus for the remainder of the pregnancy. See Declaration of Pregnancy form (https://www.unmc.edu/cahphandbook/images/2/26/RSO_Declared_Pregnant_Worker.docx).
4. Upon review of the findings and recommendations of the Radiation Safety Officer or Medical Radiation Physicist, clinical assignments will be reviewed. Clinical assignments will only be altered if the fetus received the maximum permissible dose as stated by 180 NAC 004.13 (10 CFR Part 20.1208). Any clinical competencies not completed for reasons related to pregnancy must be successfully completed prior to graduation.
5. Provide the program director with written indication of intent to:
 - a. continue in the program, or
 - b. take a medical leave of absence with intent to complete the program (form available from CAHP Academic & Student Affairs), or
 - c. withdraw from the program (form available from CAHP Academic and Student Affairs).
6. The student should provide the program director with written consent from her physician providing medical advice for:
 - a. continuing in the program as a full-time student, and/or
 - b. any limitations placed upon the student while enrolled in the program.
7. A student may also voluntarily withdraw their declaration of pregnancy at any time. See Declaration of Pregnancy form (https://www.unmc.edu/cahphandbook/images/2/26/RSO_Declared_Pregnant_Worker.docx).
8. Upon review of the findings and recommendations of the Radiation Safety Officer or Medical Radiation Physicist, clinical assignments will be reviewed. Clinical assignments will only be altered if the fetus received the maximum permissible dose as stated by 180 NAC 004.13 (10 CFR Part 20.1208). Any clinical competencies not completed for reasons related to pregnancy must be successfully completed prior to graduation.

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