




WCCN Clinical Accompaniment Policy

Doc. Number	WCCN/2020/45
Date Issued	20120/09/15
Revision	2020/15/15

Author	Position	Signature	Date
Policy Task Team			2020/09/15

Approved by	Position	Signature	Date
College Senate	Head of Academia		2020/09/17

All Change requests should be submitted to WCCN

REVISION	TITLE OR BRIEF DESCRIPTION	ENTERED BY
2021/12/21	Rebranding	Dr T M Bock
2024/01/15	Re-branding	Dr T M Bock

SENATEPREAMBLE

This policy is to be applied from adoption hereof. This policy is by no means to be retrospectively applied and will only deal with the exam cycle, immediately prior to ratification of this policy.



1. SCOPE

This Policy applies to all programs of the WCCN. The policy has been formulated to ensure that the theoretical and practical component of the course are well integrated, criteria are specific to develop Professional Practice and quality measurements are in place to ensure service delivery.

The aim of the clinical accompaniment of nursing students is to facilitate the learning of and development of proficiency in essential clinical nursing skills. The ultimate goal is the development of a safe, competent nurse practitioner.

This policy must be read in conjunction with the Work Integrated Policy of the WCCN Policy No 13.

2. THE PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY

- a) To ensure that workplace learning is meaningful and constructive.
- b) To ensure that workplace learning is planned, implemented, and evaluated.
- c) To ensure that all contact with the community is done so keeping in mind the institutions' vision and mission.
- d) To provide a framework for collaboration between all stakeholders and the Western Cape Government Department of Health.
- e) To provide set guidelines for the clinical accompaniment of students of the WCCN.

3. REFERENCES

- MOU signed between Western Cape Government department of Health (Clinical Service Platform) and WCCN.
- SANC Directives.
- Western Cape Government Policy on student placements in the clinical services of the Department of Health.
- Work integrated learning Policy of the WCCN.

4. LEGISLATION

- Relevant Professional Bodies and Councils – The South African Nursing Council.
- CHE (HEQC) (2013) The higher education qualifications sub-framework.
- CHE (HEQC) Criteria for programme accreditation 2004.
- South African Qualifications Authority.
- Nursing Act, No. 33 of 2005 Regulations setting out the acts or omissions in respect of which the Council may take disciplinary steps.
- Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act.
- Occupational Health and Safety Act, No. 85 of 1993 as amended.

5. RELEVANT INSTITUTIONAL POLICIES & GUIDELINES

- Vision & Mission
- Assessment Policy and Procedure and rules for assessment
- Qualification Review Mechanism
- Student Academic Support
- Department of Health Placement Policy

6. DEFINITIONS

6.1 Work Integrated Learning (WIL)

Work integrated learning integrates academic learning with community based experiential learning that is structured, monitored and assessed to meet the outcomes of the program. Develop/enhance strategies to reach the SANC requirement for **70% supervision in undergraduate clinical placement, 60% in Advanced Midwifery Diploma and 50% for Post Graduate students**. The 70% supervision for undergraduate students will be shared between established clinical training units/professionals in the clinical areas and lecturers from WCCN (50/20 principle).

6.2 Experiential Learning

It is a term to describe learning that has meaningful student involvement. It is learning through reflection.

6.3 Workplace Learning (WPL)

Workplace learning can be in the form of placements, job shadowing, professional practice and employment-based schemes. The model is integrated into the formal learning program. It is used for both learning and as a benchmark for practice.

6.4 Clinical Experiential placements

Clinical experiential placements are professional practice placements that are formally undertaken within higher educational institutes as part of professional body requirements.

6.5 Clinical accompaniment entails:

- Providing students with clear guidelines and realistic specific learning outcomes for clinical practice, to encourage the development of optimum knowledge, skills and attitudes in the various clinical units / departments where allocated.
- Demonstrating clinical skills.
- Facilitating the integration of theoretical knowledge and clinical practice.
- Acting as a role model.
- Promoting an environment conducive for learning in the clinical facility.
- Monitoring, recording and retaining details of clinical education and training provided to the students.
- Conducting formative and summative assessment of student progress.
- Providing reports to the HOD on the student's performance and professional conduct.

7. PRINCIPLES WHICH THIS POLICY STRIVES TO UPHOLD

- Credibility
- Transparency
- Universal applicability
- Fairness

8. POLICY GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR CLINICAL ACCOMPANIMENT

- The subject lecturers together with the clinical educators are responsible for coordinating the clinical accompaniment of the students.
 - The subject lecturers\ educators must provide a supportive and corrective environment for the students to practice their clinical nursing skills.
 - The subject lecturers\ educators liaise with the registered nurse in charge of units where students are placed and ensure that the learning outcomes of students are clearly communicated. The registered nurse and the student responsibilities regarding the learning outcomes are clearly established.

WCCN NO 45 Clinical accompaniment policy

- The subject lecturer must spend at least 70% supervision in undergraduate clinical placement, 60% in Advanced Midwifery Diploma and 50% for Post Graduate students. Students must be prepared to take an active part during accompaniment.
- Clinical accompaniment of students should not disrupt the continuity in patient care.
- Clinical accompaniment can also take place in a simulated environment, e.g. in a simulation laboratory.
- An accurate, detailed record must be kept by the subject lecturers/clinical educators of the nature and duration of the clinical accompaniment of each student. The lecturer/clinical educator and student must sign this record.

9. POLICY PROVISIONS

All work placements across all qualifications and levels, should:

- a) Be embedded in the curriculum
- b) Be at the appropriate NQF level with the required credit allocation
- c) Link work placements with learning outcomes of the program
- d) Have written agreements with relevant stakeholders.

10. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

10.1. Planning

The lecturer responsible for the accompaniment of the student will ensure:

- a) Accompaniment schedules are drawn up prior to the commencement of WIL in the services.
- b) Once schedules have been planned and documented, assessment criteria and timeframes must be indicated.
- c) Students must be orientated and prepared for workplace learning.
- d) Lecturers and students who are given access to the clinical platform are subjected to the Code of Conduct of the Provincial Government Western Cape Department of Health.

10.2 Implementation Phase

- a) Lecturers will share accompaniment schedule with their responsible HOD's
- b) Lecturers will document all accompaniment sessions on an accompaniment report and on the student record.
- c) Lecturers will inform the clinical platform of their accompaniment times and report on duty at the clinical department, prior to commencement of clinical accompaniment in the wards.

10.3 Monitoring and Mentoring of students

- a) Lecturers and Clinical supervisors will monitor the students in the workplace and ensure that all learning outcomes are met.
- b) Students will also be guided and mentored by workplace supervisors.
- c) Records of all contact sessions will be kept

10.4 Reflection on Work Integrated learning

Students must be given an opportunity to reflect back on workplace learning

11. RESOURCES REQUIRED

- Financial
- Human Resources
- Infrastructure

All Academic Departments, Clinical supervisor, Lecturers and external stakeholders will be responsible for ensuring the implementation of this policy.