
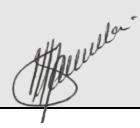




WESTERN CAPE COLLEGE OF NURSING (WCCN) STANDARD OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE FOR DEALING WITH A STUDENT INJURY WHILE IN THE CLINICAL AREA

STANDARD OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE (SOP) For student injury during WIL	
Compiled by: WCCN HOC's, HOD's	Date: 4 September 2024 Ratified Academic Governance
Signature: 	
Definitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Injury Any physical damage to the body caused by injury or violence. • Needle stick Injury It means the skin is accidentally punctured by a used needle, lancet or any other sharp object used on another person. Human bites and scratches must also be reported and managed as a student injury during WIL. • Splash Injuries Splash of blood or body fluids on to mucous membrane of eyes, mouth or nose and exposure of non-intact skin to blood or body fluids constitutes a student injury during WIL. • Rights of the Students The WCCN has entered into agreements with the WCG DoH and clinical facilities for the placement of students. In the event where a student sustains an injury during their placement the clinical facility will provide emergency management of the injury and in the case of a needle stick injury provide 24 hour prophylaxis and treatment, along with taking appropriate blood samples.
Purpose:	To ensure that the clinical services and the students and staff are aware of the management of such an injury.
Relevant Policies and Regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act • Occupational Health and Safety Act, No. 85 of 1993 as amended • WCCN No 13 Work Integrated Learning Policy • Western Cape Government Multi-lateral agreement • MOU signed between Western Cape Government Department of Health (Clinical Service Platform) and WCCN • Mou between WCCN and CPOA • MOU between WCCN and City of Cape Town • Indemnity policy • Council on Higher Education: Work-Integrated Learning: Good



	<p>Practice Guide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum Development Policy • Western Cape Government Policy on student placements in the clinical services of the Department of Health
Information to students	Please report the injury immediately to the manager on duty and to your HOC as per WCCN No 13 Work Integrated Learning Policy section 20.1.5 and 20.2.1
Procedure to follow	
Student responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student must report the injury to the manager/ registered nurse immediately. • Note that the source person's blood should if at all possible be obtained immediately for testing [1 x yellow-top tube, labelled]. • Wherever possible, this should NOT be done by you but by your supervisor or another person-in-charge who will explain to the patient what has occurred. • If the exposure occurred within a formal health facility, the source person must have such pre- and post-test counselling at the same facility where the incident occurred. His/her name, file number and contact details are important. • The student must adhere to follow-up appointments • Students shall be referred to the WCCN OHS practitioner who will follow up on the student for record purposes and statistics.
Assistance from the Clinical platform	<p>Initial prophylactic medication is available at most training facilities. Should there be any uncertainty to the availability of prophylactic medication at any of the training facilities; the academic coordinator at the facility should ensure that students take a prophylactic "starter pack" with them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean lesions immediately and thoroughly with soap and water. • Inform your supervisor immediately (either the sister-in-charge, registrar, consultant or other) who should then evaluate the incident and perform a thorough risk assessment of the injury. • Obtain informed consent from both the patient and the patient's parent or guardian (in case of a minor patient or a patient lacking decision-making capacity) for taking a blood sample (5 ml of clotted blood in a yellow gel tube for adults and 0.5 ml clotted blood for neonates) from the source (patient). • Complete the report of an exposure incident form. (Annexure A to this SOP) • The annexure can be handed to the student to submit to the HOC or a copy may be emailed to the HOC at the WCCN.



ANNEXURE A

WCCN REPORTING OF A STUDENT INJURY

A. RECORDING OF INCIDENT

CLINICAL FACILITY: _____

1. Manager: _____ **2. Name of affected person:** _____

3. Date of Accident: _____ **4. Time of Accident:** _____

5. Part of Body affected

Head or Neck	Eye	Trunk	Finger	Hand
Arm	Foot	Leg	Internal	Mouth and lips/nose

6. Nature of Injury

Strains or sprains	Contusions/wounds	Fractures	Burns	Amputation
Electrical shock	Asphyxiation	Concussion/Unconsciousness	Poisoning	Multiple
Needle Stick Injury	Splash Injury	Other		

7. Nature of emergency treatment provided.

8. Type of work performed / exposure:

9. Was incident reported to WCCN?

Yes	No
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10. Who was the injury reported to? _____

Signature of Registered Nurse

Date