

INTRODUCTION

All post-secondary students obtaining learning experience and all faculty members working with students shall comply with the health and safety requirements for staff, as specified in both legislation and St. Joseph's Health Care London (St. Joseph's), policy and procedures.

It is the responsibility of the educational facility to ensure that these requirements are followed. Documentation of immunization status and tuberculosis screening must be completed prior to the commencement of the clinical placement. A sample form (*Health Screen for Students*) is attached and can be used by the educational facility. For Sponsored Students, the attached form (*Health Screen for Students*) **must** be completed and returned to Occupational Health and Safety Services (OHSS) at St. Joseph's placement site.

Note for Sponsored Students:

If you are completing a placement at St. Joseph's as a Sponsored Student, compliance with these requirements is verified at OHSS at St. Joseph's site of placement. You will need to notify OHSS that you are a 'Sponsored Student', and complete a *Health Screen for Students* (**form must be completed prior to visiting OHSS**)

It is the student's responsibility to obtain immunizations/blood-work and TB screening and/or documentation as required, and any costs incurred are the responsibility of the student.

REQUIREMENTS**Tuberculosis Screening (as per the OMA/OHA Tuberculosis Surveillance Protocol for Ontario Hospitals):**

The educational facility is required to ensure that students have documentation (eg, physician's certificate or vaccination record) of the following:

- A baseline two-step Tuberculin Skin Test unless you have: documented results of a prior two-step test, OR documentation of negative TST within the last 12 months, in which case a single-step test to be given.

If the TB skin test is positive, a chest x-ray is required. Chest X-ray must be taken subsequent to the positive TB skin test unless clinically indicated. Provide a copy of the results.

In the event that the student is exposed to a TB positive source while on placement at St. Joseph's, a Workplace Occurrence report will need to be completed, and OHSS staff will require proof of current TB status (the student should carry a copy of their immunization records with them while on placement). A 2-month follow-up TB skin test is to be completed by the educational facility or student's family doctor. Should the skin test be positive, it is the responsibility of the educational institution/family doctor to report the positive result to Public Health.

Immunization Screening:**Vaccination Recommendations/Requirements**

1. **Red Measles:** Require documented evidence of two doses of measles-containing vaccine (eg, vaccination record), or laboratory evidence of measles immune status. Immunization is required for those persons without evidence of immunity.
2. **Rubella** (German Measles): Require documented evidence of one dose of rubella-containing vaccine (eg, physician's certificate or vaccination record), or laboratory evidence of rubella immune status. Immunization is required for those persons without evidence of immunity.
3. **Mumps:** Require documented evidence of two doses of mumps-containing vaccine (eg, vaccination record), or laboratory evidence of mumps immune status. Immunization is required for those persons without evidence of immunity.
4. **Varicella** (Chickenpox): Require documented evidence of two doses of varicella vaccine (eg, vaccination record), or laboratory evidence of varicella immune status, or diagnosis/verification of a history of typical varicella or a history of herpes zoster (shingles) by a health care provider. Immunization is required for those persons without evidence of immunity.

5. **Tetanus/Diphtheria:** Recommended every 10 years. If it is more than 10 years since your last booster, it is recommended you be vaccinated. Please provide date of vaccination to OHSS.
6. **Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis (Tdap):** Recommended you receive a one-time dose of Tetanus/Diphtheria and Acellular Pertussis booster as an adult. If you are providing care to pregnant women and/or children, you should receive this one-time dose of Tdap as soon as possible; otherwise, you may wait until next tetanus booster is due.
7. **Hepatitis B:** It is recommended that all health care workers receive a course of Hepatitis B vaccine. For your protection, it is important to obtain a Hepatitis B antibody titre following immunization to ensure that you seroconverted. If vaccinated please provide laboratory report of immune status following vaccination.
8. **Influenza:** All students will receive the influenza vaccine prior to placements occurring during the influenza season. For sponsored students who have a medical contraindication to receiving the vaccine you are required to notify OHSS at the onset of the placement and provide documentation to support the medical contraindication.

GENERAL HEALTH CONDITION

Students with a medical condition that may impact upon their clinical placement in any way, such as a fracture, allergies, injuries, a condition that requires use of an assistive device, or an infectious condition must report to their placement coordinator prior to confirmation of their placement with the hospital. The placement coordinator will discuss suitability to complete the placement with their contact at St. Joseph's, who will contact OHSS.

N95 RESPIRATOR FIT TESTING – USE OF AN N95 RESPIRATOR IS NOT EXPECTED FOR STUDENT PLACEMENTS

ILLNESS OR INJURY WHILE ON CLINICAL PLACEMENT

It is the student's responsibility to immediately report to their clinical instructor/supervisor at St. Joseph's if they are unable to attend their clinical placement due to illness/injury. Care is available through OHSS during regular business hours to faculty members or students who become acutely ill or injured while on hospital premises. If OHSS is not available, the decision for treatment or transportation home will be the responsibility of the student and person in charge.

Students with any acutely infectious condition may not work without OHSS approval, for example, vomiting or diarrhea, strep throat, weeping cold sores, eye infections, and must report their symptoms to OHSS. They will be excluded from work if necessary, until deemed by OHSS to be non-infectious.

Where a student is injured while on duty, the clinical instructor shall assume the responsibility to initiate a Workplace Occurrence Report (found on each clinical unit or in OHSS, to be completed and sent to OHSS) and take action to ensure the student accesses first aid treatment (follow hospital policy, *First Aid for Staff/Affiliates* found at <http://intra.sjhc.london.on.ca/policy>). The student must also ensure the St. Joseph's leader is immediately made aware of an injury sustained while at work. Any student who has an exposure (eg, puncture wound) to blood or body fluids must also follow up with OHSS immediately and will do a baseline blood work assessment. Any further blood work follow-up is to be done by the student's family doctor.

If the student requires accommodation or restrictions related to illness/injury, the clinical instructor/supervisor will contact OHSS.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY SERVICES

St. Joseph's Hospital Room E2-118 Phone: 519-646-6100, extension 64332 Fax: 519-646-6235 Monday - Friday 0800 - 1600 hrs	Parkwood Institute (for Parkwood Institute and Southwest Centre) Main Building, Room B1-120 Phone: 519-646-6100, extension 64332 Fax: 519-685-4076 Monday - Friday 0800 - 1600 hrs
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Note: The OHA/OMA Communicable Disease Surveillance Protocols for Ontario Hospitals can be accessed through the OHA website.