



**NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**  
SCHOOL OF NURSING

**Student Handbook and Clinical Risk Acknowledgement**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, acknowledge that I have read the NMU School of  
*(clearly print full name)*

Nursing Handbook for my nursing program found on: [www.nmu.edu/nursing/handbooks](http://www.nmu.edu/nursing/handbooks)

I understand that this handbook is updated annually in the summer and it is my responsibility to review the handbook each fall.

I also understand that in the requirements of completing clinical hours, there is potential for me to be exposed to blood borne pathogens (including a needle stick) and/or situations that might result in accidental or intentional injury (including patients and/or family members who might be violent due to organic or nonorganic causes). I have read and understand the NMU School of Nursing Procedure for Management of Exposure to Blood-Borne Diseases located in Appendix 5 of the handbook.

There are additional risks in any health care environment of potential exposure to infectious diseases. Nurses and nursing students are required to follow appropriate infection control policies, which include the proper use of personal protection equipment (PPE). If I am concerned in any way about my physical safety or feel that I do not have the appropriate PPE resources as required by infection control policies, I understand the need to notify my NMU clinical instructor. If this does not resolve my concerns, I understand the need to contact the Associate Dean/Director of the School of Nursing.

If injured during a clinical experience, I must immediately contact the NMU clinical instructor and/or the nurse/manager in charge of the clinical environment. The NMU clinical instructor will guide me to fill out and submit an injury report for the clinical agency as well as for NMU. I will be referred to seek health care services (Student Health Care Center, Employee Health Care Center, or Emergency Room). I understand that I am personally responsible for any healthcare expenses associated with such exposures. NMU School of Nursing has advised me on the need to carry personal medical healthcare insurance.

NMU does provide students enrolled in NMU School of Nursing with malpractice insurance. Coverage is in effect for enrolled students in academic activities. However, students (and in particular students who hold professional licensure) may wish to obtain additional malpractice insurance from either the American Nurses' Association or the National Student Nurses' Association.

**Pregnancy:** I understand that a student who is pregnant may continue in clinical practice as long as their health status is satisfactory and they are able to complete clinical assignments. For the safety of such a student who is pregnant, she must not enter where radioisotopes or x-ray therapy is being administered. Students who are pregnant should consult with their NMU clinical faculty member well in advance in order to determine if there are specific clinical agency policies that determine placement during pregnancy.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Clinical Requirements for Nursing Students

Purpose: The NMU School of Nursing is committed to offering safe and effective clinical experiences to all nursing students in accordance with the most up to date guidelines of both the CDC and local/regional public health organizations.

Clinical placements are dependent on the ever-changing environment within the community. Faculty, staff and students will need to be flexible in making adjustments from the School's usual clinical practices and placement guidelines.

Additional guidelines to ensure safety include:

1) Nursing students are required to adhere to all NMU University specific guidelines related to infection control. If a situation should arise where additional protection is warranted, students will be notified and expected to follow the infection control guidelines set forth. Each BSN student will be provided with education and practice at the start of the semester related to the following areas of infection control and nursing practice skills:

- a. Donning and doffing personal protective equipment including masks, face shields, gowns, and gloves
- b. Administration of vaccinations (such as flu vaccination)
- c. Handwashing
- d. Simple disinfection of medical equipment and surfaces (such as stethoscope, hard surfaces in community based clinical sites)
- e. Transmission based precautions (droplet/airborne)

2) Clinical placements may be canceled if the clinical site or the School of Nursing determines that limits on PPE availability might impact safety.

3) Clinical and simulation faculty will monitor carefully to ensure that students adhere to established guidelines and practices of the simulation center or clinical site related to infection control practices.

4) Students who are unable to meet the clinical infection control requirements for any reason over the course of the semester should notify the Program Coordinator or Clinical Instructor as soon as possible prior to the start of clinical. Alternative clinical assignment options may be available including simulation, makeup clinical or other clinical assignment.

5) Clinical sites may require additional education, practice or policy reviews prior to clinical participation. For clarification of information, students should refer questions directly to the clinical or simulation faculty, the Program Coordinator or Clinical Instructor. Any practice or policy changes will be communicated via NMU (Gmail) email and also via Educat for each specific course.

6) Students who are non-immunized might be prevented from entering a clinic site. If this happens, the School of Nursing will try to accommodate with alternative placements; however, this might not be possible.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Photo/Video Permission**

Students, staff and faculty often take pictures and/or short videos to commemorate experiences during your time in the BSN program. These pictures are taken with the intent to create memories or to share our nursing student experiences via social media and other outlets. By signing this form, you are granting permission for your photograph to be used in School of Nursing social media posts (Facebook, Instagram), in the lighter side video shared at the pinning ceremony (graduation) and in newsletters created to share highlights of our program with prospective students, alumni and community members.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Communication Expectations**

Students must notify their clinical instructor as soon as possible if they develop any signs or symptoms of COVID-19, have been in close contact with a person with signs or symptoms of COVID-19, have been in close contact with a person with a suspected case of COVID-19, or if they are notified of exposure to COVID-19. In the event a nursing student qualifies for isolation or quarantine as determined by a local public health department, faculty and administration will adhere to guidelines as set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the local public health department with jurisdiction over the case. Curricular issues caused by a student's adherence to public health isolation/quarantine guidance will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to meet student needs and program requirements.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_