Excerpt from Employee Occupational Health Infection Control Policy defining when NOT to report for a Clinical/Non-Clinical assignment for high school health science students, nursing school students and associated instructors

E. Infections or conditions that require absence from work:
   1. Skin infections where draining wounds are present. The employee may return to work when the drainage ceases. See below for specific restrictions.
   2. Respiratory tract infections including but not limited to
      a. Group A Strep - Strep screening and treatment services available in Employee Occupational Health Office; the employee may return to work after 24 hours of treatment for Group A Strep
      b. Pneumonia
      c. Active Pulmonary TB - the employee may return to work when negative sputum for AFB or when released from physician.
      d. Influenza
      e. Mumps
      f. Pertussis
   3. Active viral exanthems including but not limited to:
      a. Varicella - Employees may return to work when lesion due to Varicella are dry and crusted.
      b. Herpes Zoster - Employees with Zoster may work if the lesions may be covered and the employee can be restricted from care of high-risk patients.
      c. Rubeola
      d. Rubella
   4. Enteric infections with associated vomiting or diarrhea. The employee may return to work when the diarrhea or vomiting abates. (See Clostridium difficile guidelines below)
   5. Conjunctivitis: The employee may return to work when the drainage ceases.
   6. Scabies/Lice: The employee may return to work 24 hours of effective treatment.
   7. Any condition suspected to be infectious or contagious as determined by Employee Health Physician/Infection Control until the employee is determined to be noninfectious. The Employee Health Office may be contacted if there is a question on work restrictions for illnesses.

Infections or conditions with limited patient assignments:
   1. Herpes Simplex - restricted from care for immunosuppressed patients, pregnant patients or infants.
   2. Herpes Zoster - Employees with Zoster may work if the lesions may be covered and the employee can be restricted from care of high-risk patients.
   3. Poison Ivy/Contact Dermatitis - employees with contact dermatitis due to poison ivy/oak or other plants may be allowed to render patient care providing employee washes the affected body area to remove all plant oils and if the lesions are not draining. If the dermatitis becomes infected, the employee must be evaluated before returning to work.
   4. Methicillin-Resistant Staph. Aureus- employees with an open lesion are restricted from work. All other employees are reviewed for restrictions. Any employee determined to be a carrier of infection is permitted to work during their treatment. All employees diagnosed
with MRSA are required to be cleared by Employee Health Occupational Physician prior to return to work.

5. Hepatitis A - employees in direct patient care or food service are restricted from work. All employees diagnosed with Hepatitis A are required to be cleared by Employee Occupational Health Physician prior to return to work.

6. Clostridium difficile – Employees with active diarrheal stools resulting from Clostridium difficile infection are restricted from work until diarrheal symptoms are resolved. All employees diagnosed with Clostridium difficile Infection are required to be cleared by Employee Health Occupational Physician prior to return to work.

References

CDC: Guidelines for Infection Control in Healthcare Personnel, 1998

I have read the above Infection Control policy requiring absence from my Clinical/Non-clinical assignment and agree to comply:

Student’s Printed Name: ________________________ Student Signature: ______________________