



CLINICAL EXPOSURE POLICY

EFFECTIVE DATE:	5/11/26	NEXT REVIEW:	5/30/2027
APPROVED BY:	Academic Programs		
CATEGORY:	Academic Programs		
APPLIES TO:	Students in the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) Program		

REFERENCES AND RELATED POLICIES:

- MSU Healthcare Professional Student Exposure Information, University Health and Wellbeing
- MSUCOM Clerkship Illness Policy

PURPOSE

This policy will define the policy and procedure following disease exposure during clinical encounters. Examples of diseases include TB, HIV, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, Monkey B, and Rabies. Students should consult the Clerkship Illness Policy for policy/procedure related to COVID-19 exposure.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Participation in MSUCOM-affiliated clinical activities, including clinical training sites, volunteer events, and student organization-sponsored activities, requires adherence to appropriate clinical precautions and compliance with all applicable College and site-specific policies and procedures. Additional information is available on the MSU Health and Wellbeing website.

<https://uhw.msu.edu/data-and-resources/forms-and-policies/campus-health-policies-and-guidelines/healthcare-professional-students-information-for-exposure-to-diseases>

In the event of an exposure, students must:

1. Seek first aid immediately: first aid includes immediately washing or flushing the exposure site for 15 minutes.

- Needlesticks and broken skin should be washed with soap and water.
- Splashes to the nose, mouth, or skin should be flushed with water.
- Eyes should be irrigated with clean water, saline, or sterile irrigants.

2. Report/Post Exposure Evaluation to the Clinical Rotation Site.

Students must report the exposure to the clinical supervisors immediately after completing first aid. The clinical supervisor will direct the student to the appropriate site policies/procedures and post-exposure evaluation. Alternately, the site student coordinator, or nursing manager/emergency department (if after hours) can direct a student to proper site protocols and post-exposure evaluation. In most instances, post-exposure evaluation will occur in the rotation site emergency department or rotation site employee health department.

a. Post exposure evaluation should occur immediately after first aid.

- i. Post exposure evaluation may include:
 - Patient bloodwork for communicable diseases.
 - Student bloodwork, both immediate and future scheduled draws, for communicable diseases.
 - Discussion of post exposure prophylaxis.
- ii. Students should be aware that any emergency department evaluation and related costs would not be considered an employee workplace injury as the student is not an employee of the clinical site. The student is responsible for any costs related to exposure treatment and testing and as such, should utilize the student's health insurance.

3. Report/Post Exposure Evaluation to MSU

Students must report the exposure to the following MSU team members:

- a. Clerkship students must report the exposure to the Associate Dean for Clerkship Education: Dr. Enright via email at either enright4@msu.edu or com.clerkship@msu.edu.
- b. Preclerkship students must report the exposure to the Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education: Dr. Kristen Waarala via email at waarala@msu.edu.
- c. **All students** must complete the [exposure control reporting form](#) at the time of contact and the original forwarded to the MSU Occupational Health Nurse at joycekr1@msu.edu with a copy sent to Dr. Enright (clerkship student) or Dr. Waarala (preclerkship student).
 - i. MSU provides a hotline to call to report an exposure and offer consultation and advice. The hotline number is **1-877-STUCK50** or **1-877-788-2550**
- d. Students working in research laboratories on campus with potentially hazardous agents or materials should consult and abide by laboratory policies and procedures.