



Policy Title
Radiation Safety

Identifier
UofSCSOMG – STAF – 7.04

Prepared by: Office for Student Affairs and Admissions	
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LCME Standards

12.8 – Student Exposure Policies and Procedures

Scope

University of South Carolina (UofSC) School of Medicine Greenville students and visiting students

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the UofSC School of Medicine Greenville to ensure the safety of students, patients, faculty and other parties with respect to exposure to radiation. As such, we observe the rules and regulations promulgated by federal and state agencies overseeing radioactive sources and follow policies concerning radiation safety and exposure prevention set forth by our partner health system.

Medical students may request a Instadose Plus Radiation Monitor through the Office for Academic Affairs. Students must complete Radiation Safety Training prior to requesting a radiation monitor.

Reason for Policy

To provide UofSC School of Medicine students clarity on radiation safety policies during clinical assignments. LCME requires that a medical school has policies in place that effectively address medical student exposure to infectious and environmental hazards.

Definitions

1. Instadose Plus Radiation Monitor - worn by an individual to determine the amount of occupational radiation exposure they have received. These monitors transmit the data wirelessly via built-in Bluetooth technology to a reading station.

Procedures

During their clinical education curriculum, medical students may experience occupational exposure to radiation,

and are subject to radiation monitoring and other precautions set forth in this policy and in the partner health system Radiation Safety Programs.

1. Prevention and Radiation Safety
 - a. All students will be required to complete training as defined by the partner health system policy.
2. Radiation Monitoring
 - a. Medical students may request a Instadose Plus Radiation Monitor through the Office for Academic Affairs.
 - b. Students must properly wear their radiation monitor when occupationally exposed to radiation. This includes when working with fluoroscopy, handling radioactive material and/or operating x-ray producing equipment. Radiation monitors are to be worn between the chest and neck outside lead aprons/thyroid collars.
 - c. All badges must be returned to the Office for Academic Affairs at the completion of the clinical activity or at the end of M4 year, prior to graduation.
 - d. Students who in the M1 or M2 year participate in any activities that may result in potential radiation exposure should contact the Office for Academic Affairs to obtain a monitoring device. Monitoring devices must be returned to the Office for Academic Affairs in a timely manner at the completion of the clinical activity.
3. Pregnant Students
 - a. If a student becomes pregnant at a time when they are scheduled to be involved in activities that present risk of radiation exposure can voluntarily declare herself pregnant in writing to the RSO or location administrator. A [declaration of pregnancy form](#) will need to be completed.
 - b. The student will be provided with Nuclear Regulatory Guide 8.13 for information regarding fetal exposure
 - c. The pregnant student will be issued a monthly fetal monitor with a limit of 500 mrem during the pregnancy in addition to the Instadose Plus Radiation Monitor described in Section 2.
 - d. Fetal monitors are to be worn at the waist level under the individuals lead apron.
 - e. The fetal monitor must be worn for the duration of the pregnancy. This is a monthly badge. Each month, the student will be notified by the Office for Academic Affairs to pick up a new fetal monitor.
 - f. Upon submission of a pregnancy declaration, the student, the student's supervising faculty and the partner health system Radiation Safety Officer shall establish an exposure control plan to ensure the dose to the fetus due to occupational exposure of the student throughout the remainder of her pregnancy does not exceed standards set forth in partner health system policy.
4. Lost Badges
 - a. All badges must be returned to the Office for Academic Affairs at the conclusion of the clinical activity or at the end of M4 year, prior to graduation. For lost, damaged or misplaced badges, contact the Office for Academic Affairs to request a replacement. The cost to replace the badge is \$25.

Sanctions

A student will not be able to receive their diploma until the radiation badge has been returned or if lost, the \$25 replacement fee is paid.

Additional Contacts

Office for Student Affairs and Admissions
Office for Academic Affairs

Partner Health System Radiation Safety Officer (864) 455-3720

Related Information

UofSC School of Medicine Greenville Student Handbook

[Pregnancy Declaration form](#)

History

Date of Change	Change
April 2021	Updated to reflect a change in partner health system policy, radiation badges are no longer required for all students, but may be requested through the Office for Academic Affairs.
May 2020	Updated timing in which badges are issued and replacement costs in the M3/M4 years.
May 2019	Clarified monitoring procedures and sanctions. Editorial changes made due to branding updates and titles.
Sept 2018	Policy formalized into standardized template, LCME CQI