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.

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

Procedures
OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

A. RADIATION MONITORING.
During their clinical education curriculum, medical students may experience occupational exposure to radiation, and are subject to the radiation monitoring requirements and other precautions set forth in this Policy and in the partner health system Radiation Safety Programs.

B. MONITORING DEVICES.
1. All students are required to wear, for the purpose of radiation monitoring, dosimetry badges (hereafter referred to as “radiation badges”) or other monitoring devices specified in the partner health system
Radiation Safety Programs or in applicable state or federal regulations. Radiation badges must be worn at waist level on the outside attire of the student; provided, when a lead apron is worn, radiation badges must be worn on the collar outside the apron.

2. Radiation badges are issued at the beginning of the M3 year and will be collected at the end of M4 before students graduate. For lost, damaged or misplaced badges, contact the Office for Academic Affairs to request a replacement. The cost to replace the badge is $25.

3. 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.

C. PREGNANCY.

1. If a student becomes pregnant during clinical training, a Pregnancy Declaration form must be completed and a radiation fetal monitor must be worn for the duration of the pregnancy in addition to the student radiation badge. This is a monthly badge. Each month, the student will be notified by the Office for Academic Affairs to pick up a new monitor.
   a. The fetal badge shall be worn at the waist level under any radiation shielding garments.
   b. The radiation badge shall be worn at collar level outside any shielding garments.

2. 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.

Sanctions
Violations of this policy will be considered a professionalism violation may result in referral to the Clerkship Director and/or the Office for Academic Affairs as appropriate.

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
UofSCSOMG – STAF – 7.05 Health Policy for Pregnant Students
Partner Health System Radiation Safety Manual
Pregnancy Declaration form

History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Change</th>
<th>Change</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 2020</td>
<td>Updated timing in which badges are issued and replacement costs in the M3/M4 years.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2019</td>
<td>Clarified monitoring procedures and sanctions. Editorial changes made due to branding updates and titles.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 2018</td>
<td>Policy formalized into standardized template, LCME CQI</td>
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