Policy Title
Radiation Safety Policy

Identifier
USCSOMG – STAF – 7.4

Prepared by: Office of Student Affairs
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LCME Standards
12.8 – Student Exposure Policies and Procedures

Scope
University of South Carolina (USC) School of Medicine Greenville students

Policy Statement
It is the policy of the USC 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 USC School of Medicine students clarity on radiation safety policies during clinical assignments

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 (hereinafter 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 quarterly to students in the M3 and M4 years. For lost or misplaced badges, contact the Office of Academic Affairs to request a replacement.
3. Students who in the M1 or M2 year participate in any activities that may result in potential radiation exposure should contact the Office of Academic Affairs to obtain a monitoring device.
4. Monitoring devices must be returned to the Office of 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 of 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 may result in referral to the Honor and Professionalism Council and may be reflected in the clerkship evaluation.

Additional Contacts
Office of Student Affairs
Office of Academic Affairs
Partner Health System Radiation Safety Officer

Related Information
USC School of Medicine Greenville Student Handbook
USCOMG-STAF-7.3-Health Policy for Pregnant Students
Partner Ha Radiation Safety Policy (S-90-9)
Pregnancy Declaration form

History
- Date of Change: xx/xx/xxxx (effective date)
- Change: Move to standardized template
- Reason for Change: LCME CQI