

Safety Policy for Therapeutic Equipment

The University of South Carolina Athletic Training Program has established a policy to ensure the safety of therapeutic equipment at clinical education sites. The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) regulates the practice of athletic trainers and use of therapeutic equipment in the state of South Carolina, but does not have any specific policies regarding the use, maintenance, and safety of therapeutic equipment. This policy was established to ensure that all clinical education sites affiliated with the USC AT Program and the education of AT students are in compliance with specific safety standards for therapeutic equipment as outlined by the AT Program.

The USC AT Program completes annual clinical education site evaluations to confirm the following:

- Calibration and safety check are completed on all therapeutic equipment annually.
- Recommendations for all equipment are being followed. This includes any manufacturer's recommendation or federal, state, or local ordinance regarding specific equipment calibrations and maintenance.

In the event a clinical education site is not compliant:

- The AT Program requests that the equipment be removed from the clinic and not used as part of clinical practice and/or student education.
- The clinical education site is asked to communicate with the AT Program as to when the equipment becomes compliant with safety standards.
- The AT student will be removed from the clinical education site if equipment that is not in compliance with this policy continues to be used.

Information pertaining to this policy on therapeutic equipment safety is included as a part of Preceptor Training by the AT Program Clinical Education Coordinator. Any questions pertaining to this policy should be directed to the Athletic Training Program Director or Clinical Education Coordinator.

Clinical education sites accredited by the Joint Commission or other recognized external accrediting agencies are exempt.

