Objectives:

To reduce the possibility of exposure to Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), Hepatitis C Virus (HCV), other bloodborne pathogens and body fluids to nursing students, SON faculty and staff with assigned responsibilities to all Core Campus Learning Laboratories.

To ensure that all nursing students are trained in Standard Precautions and in compliance with the OSHA Blood Borne Pathogen Standard 29 CFR 1910.1030 and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2007).

Policy:

Students shall comply with current OSHA standards for exposure to bloodborne pathogens and follow the guidelines for practice in the learning laboratories identified below. This policy also applies when faculty members deem it necessary to conduct teaching or practice sessions with sharps in areas outside of the learning laboratories.

Definition of sharps:

Needles, lancets, scalpel blades, sharp pipettes, slides, broken/contaminated glass, surgical staples,

orthodontic wires, wooden applicator sticks, or any other item likely to puncture a bag are considered sharps and must be disposed of in an approved sharps container.

Procedure for Educating Students:

Students will receive instructions about OSHA standards for exposure to blood borne pathogens prior to participating in activities that increase the participant’s potential risk for exposure.
Students will receive training in standard precautions at the time of their new student orientation. This training must include the appropriate use of hand washing, protective barriers, and care in the use and disposal of needles and other sharp instruments.

Students, who miss their orientation, including the training, are responsible for completing training and providing documentation to the school within one month of the beginning of the semester.

Training verification by students will be conducted annually by the IUSON, and those students not in compliance will be unable to participate in clinical courses.

Safety Guidelines Related to Use of Needles and Other Sharp Objects to be followed by Students, Faculty and Staff:

1. Students will read and sign the responsibility statement for practice with needles and sharp or contaminated objects (see attachment A). Statement will be signed following the completion of the initial OSHA training for all undergraduate and graduate programs with documentation to be the responsibility of The Center for Academic Affairs on the IUPUI campus, the Assistant Dean on the Bloomington campus, and the Head, Division of Nursing on the Columbus campus.

2. Practice with needles and sharp objects relative to parenteral routes of administration will be confined to a designated area in the Resource Center for Innovation in Clinical Nursing Education (RCICNE). The designated area will be supplied with usable needle containers at all times. Prior to students practicing, clinical faculty are responsible for instructing the students on appropriate handling and disposal of needles and sharps. Practice in the designated area does not need to be supervised.

3. Faculty who conduct teaching or practice sessions in areas outside of the learning laboratories will need to personally supervise the sessions and remove all sharps used and unused immediately following the sessions.

4. Students will follow the practices established for access, use, and return of equipment used in the practice with needles and sharp or contaminated objects to limit risk of exposure.

5. Students will use manikins and models for practice with skills involving needles and sharp objects in a designated area.

6. No students will be used in the practice of invasive skills. Faculty-supervised students requiring practice of an invasive procedure will do so on paid surrogate patients.
7. Displays of needles and sharp objects cannot be left unattended.

8. Anyone stuck with a needle or sharp object will follow the OSHA standards for attending to the injury and the campus procedure for reporting the injury.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT FOR PRACTICE WITH NEEDLES AND SHARP OR CONTAMINATED OBJECTS

Indiana University School of Nursing adheres to Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan in accordance with the Occupational and Safety Health Administration Guidelines (OSHA).

As a student in the Indiana University School of Nursing I affirm that:

1. I completed the OSHA Bloodborne Pathogen training program on ______________

2. I understand that there is risk involved with the use of needles and that risk includes (but is not limited to) trauma, infection, tetanus, hepatitis and HIV.

3. To reduce my risk it is my responsibility to:
   a. NOT re-cap needles
   b. DISPOSE of needles or sharp or contaminated objects in the appropriate RED BIOHAZARD WASTE SHARP CONTAINERS
   c. NOT reuse contaminated needles.

4. To reduce the risk to others, it is my responsibility to:
   a. DISCARD needles or sharp or contaminated objects in the appropriate RED BIOHAZARD WASTE SHARP CONTAINERS.
   b. NOT put needles, ampules or other sharp objects in the trash.
c. NOT leave sharp or contaminated items lying loose and unattended in the lab or any other setting where people may come into contact with those items.

d. Discard needles or sharp or contaminated objects used in practice settings outside of the learning lab, including areas external to the school such as students’ residence, consistent with written guidelines.

5. If I am stuck with a needle or sharp object during my practice or in clinical, I will immediately wash the area for 5 minutes with soap and running water (or appropriate first aid). Then I will, call IUPUI Health Services staff member at 274-OUCH to report the exposure and arrange for follow-up as needed. Refer to laminated card given to students and faculty for additional f/u instructions or IUSON Administrative Policy Number I-D-19 Exposure to Blood or Other Potentially Infectious Materials: Post-Exposure Evaluation and Follow-up.

If, on the Indiana University Bloomington Campus, I will page my faculty member and either receive services according to the institution’s policy or be directed to the Health Center (812) 855-5001.

If, at the IUPU-Columbus Regional Center, I will contact the Infection Control Nurse in the clinical setting and the secretary in the Nursing Department at IUPUC (812) 348-7250.

I have read and understand the above to be my responsibility. Further, I realize that violation of these responsibilities may result in serious injury to me or others.

Student _________________________________ Date___________________________

References:


Approved by CCNF Student Affairs Committee, 4-20-98

Approved by CCNF Executive Committee, 10-19-98

Revision approved by CCNF Student Affairs Committee, 11-26-07; 10-24-11

Revision approved by CCNF Executive Committee, 2-18-08; 2-13-12

Revision approved by CCNF Business Meeting, 4-21-08; 04-02-12