

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN ON PLACEMENT DURING COVID-19: LEARNER FAQ

Version Date: June 26 2020

PURPOSE

These questions are designed to provide a foundation for hospitals to consider when building out resources for learners on placement during the COVID-19 pandemic.

BACKGROUND

As learners are reintegrated into hospital-based placements, it is anticipated that learners will have many questions related to changes in the hospitals and how this impacts their daily lives. In an effort to reduce anxiety and uncertainty, hospitals are preparing resources for learners, both virtual and in-person. Learners should also be made aware of their professional and social responsibilities as future healthcare providers.

It is recommended that a version date and clarity that responses to questions may change as provincial direction and hospital policies change be included.

QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Pre-Screening/Hospital Entrance Procedures

What social restrictions must I follow before returning to the clinical environment (i.e., [PHO](#))?

Am I required to complete any pre-screening prior to beginning my placement?

Am I required to self-isolate prior to starting my placement?

Will I be screened when entering the hospital? What are the restrictions (e.g., LTC, Outbreak Setting)?

Personal Protective Equipment

Am I required to provide my own PPE?

Due to the global PPE shortage, what policies are in place to conserve PPE?

What PPE will I be provided with?

Can I take off my procedure mask when I am in the hospital?

My N95 mask fit testing certificate has expired, what should I do?

What PPE education and training will I be provided with?

Staying Safe While on Placement

Will students be required to provide care to COVID-19 positive patients?

Will students be required to participate in aerosol-generating medical procedures (AGMP)?

How can I stay safe while providing patient care?

How can I stay safe and protect my colleagues on the unit?

What happens if the unit I am assigned to goes into outbreak?

What spaces are available for breaks?

What if I feel unsafe during an activity while on placement?

Occupational Health & Safety

- What are the symptoms of COVID-19?
- What should I do if I develop one of the above symptoms?
- When should I get tested for COVID-19?
- Where can I get tested for COVID-19?
- What should I do if I am diagnosed with COVID-19?
- What if someone I live with has symptoms of COVID-19?
- What if I have a health condition that I feel requires a workplace accommodation?
- What happens if there is a second wave of COVID-19?

Virtual Learning & Care

- Will I be required to participate in virtual care?
- What resources are available for me to learn about how to provide virtual care?

Life Outside of Placement

- How can I keep my family and home safe?
- What should I do if I live with someone who is immunocompromised?
- Can I work at another job while attending placement? Can I continue to work in a hospital, long term care facility while on placement here?
- Can I travel during weekends, holidays or during other periods of time-off?
- Can I ride the TTC to get to the hospital?

Wellness Resources

- What supports are in place to help me while I am on placement?
- Who should I contact if I have concerns or worries while I am on placement?