

UConn School of Nursing Master of Science Program Handbook 2022-2023 Academic Year



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Welcome to UConn

Greetings,

Welcome to our UConn Community of Scholars! This document was developed to serve as a reference for students in the Master of Science Program or Post-graduate Certificate Programs at the University of Connecticut (UConn) School of Nursing (SON). It is to be used in conjunction with the [graduate school catalog](#). The Graduate School ultimately awards the degree.

Our faculty & staff will communicate with you through messages to your UConn email or those distributed on the listserv MSNUR-L@LISTSERV.UCONN.EDU

We encourage you to visit the school's website to learn about the various [student organizations and leadership positions](#) in which you may be involved. The website also provides updated information on student [scholarship](#) opportunities. The UConn Graduate School website includes information on [graduate assistantship](#) opportunities, [financial aid and Graduate School Policies and Procedures](#).

In addition to our world-class faculty scholars and educators in the SON, UConn provides significant [academic support](#) to promote student success.

- The [Dean of Students Office](#) serves as a centralized resource for connecting students with appropriate university and community programs, offices, and individuals, to resolve issues that affect the quality of their academic or community life and personal goals.
- The [Academic Achievement Center](#) is a walk-in service for students to learn effective ways to study and time management strategies, as well as methods of managing stress.
- Free tutoring is available through the [Writing Center](#) with available expertise to help students refine their writing skills in any course.
- Students with disabilities are provided accommodations through the [Center for Students with Disabilities](#).
- For students whose first language is not English, student support is provided through [International Student and Scholar Services](#). All new international students must complete check-in online through the ISSS website.

Your advisor, faculty members, staff, and Graduate Track Directors are always available to address any questions, concerns, or issues. Best wishes for a smooth and satisfying UConn experience.

Regards,

Dr. Alexander, Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Track Director
Dr. Artigas, Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Track Director
Dr. Bott, Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Track Director
Dr. Bourassa, Nurse Educator and Nurse Leader Track Director
Dr. Jakubisin Konicki, Family Nurse Practitioner Track Director

UConn School of Nursing Master of Science Program

The School of Nursing (SON), located in Storrs Hall, was founded in 1942 by Carolyn Ladd Widmer. In the years since, the school has grown significantly. The SON was initially home to a BS program only but responded to the public need to prepare nurses for advanced nursing practice roles in 1971 by offering tracks in the Master of Science (MS) program. Today, the MS program includes four nurse practitioner tracks, including programs of study in Adult-Gerontology Primary Care, Adult-Gerontology Acute Care, Neonatal, and Family Nurse Practitioner, as well as the Nurse Educator and Nurse Leader tracks.

The UConn SON supports students in achieving their highest academic and leadership aspirations through learning experiences that reflect current and future health care needs. Thus, we believe students must be exposed to a broad range of experiences to grasp the foundations of nursing science and practice in the real world, and to gain leadership skills to advance health. The curriculum is rigorous, providing students with the foundations of advanced nursing practice and leadership with emphasis on problem-solving and critical thinking.

Upon completion of course work and all prescribed experiences, our graduates are prepared to:

- Synthesize appropriate theories from nursing and related fields to respond to emerging health care challenges.
- Synthesize appropriate scientific findings and theories from nursing and related fields to lead change to improve outcomes.
- Influence health care policy for the benefit of person, community, nursing, and environment.
- Demonstrate PRAXIS at an advanced level of nursing in a selected area of concentration.
- Exert leadership in creating a collaborative and caring health care community.
- Synthesize best evidence and translate into practice to creatively improve health care quality and outcomes.

Upon successful completion of the curriculum, students receive a Master of Science (MS) degree from the University of Connecticut, Graduate School and may apply for eligibility to sit for the national certification examination in their respective population/track focus.

- Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner student can apply for certification through the [American Association of Nurses Credentialing Center](#) or the [American Association of Critical-Care Nurses](#).
- Adult-Gerontology Primary Care and Family Nurse Practitioner students can apply for certification through the [American Association of Nurses Credentialing Center](#) or the [American Academy of Nurse Practitioners National Certification Board](#).
- Neonatal Nurse Practitioner students apply for certification through the [National Certification Corporation](#).

- Nurse Educator students can apply for certification through the [National league for Nursing](#).
- Nurse Leader students can apply for certification through the [American Organization for Nursing Leadership](#) or [American Nurses Credentialing Center](#).

In addition, each graduate has the necessary background to apply for admission to the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) or Philosophy of Science (PhD) programs.

Our PRAXIS

One of the most important aspects for you to learn early on is the PRAXIS statement that guides our behaviors and actions within the SON. All members of the SON are expected to abide by these principles, and they are part of your evaluation criteria in many of your courses.

The philosophy of the School of Nursing is directed by six guiding principles:

- **P**rofessionalism in behavior, presentation, and conduct
- **R**espectful of the richness and diversity of others and of self
- **A**ccountability for my actions
- **eX**cellence in scholarship, practice, teaching, and service
- **I**ntegrity, inquisitiveness, and innovation
- **S**ervice to the profession and the community

The SON expectations are consistent with behaviors that will be required in the clinical setting. Rude or disrespectful behavior, bullying or unprofessional conduct is not tolerated. As a student at UConn SON, this extends to interactions on and off campus as well as through social media. Violations of PRAXIS are a serious offense that can be grounds for dismissal from the School of Nursing.

Reported violations of PRAXIS are placed in the student's file and a thorough investigation is performed by the Associate Dean as delineated by the PRAXIS policy. Please note that other processes are used at the University level to handle violations of the Student Code <https://community.uconn.edu/the-student-code-preamble/> or academic misconduct <https://community.uconn.edu/academic-misconduct/> that can also result in dismissal from the University.

Your Advisor

Upon admission, students are assigned a SON faculty advisor who will assist in planning each student's program of study to meet the program requirements. Students must meet with their advisor in order to register for courses. Students who have not received communication from their advisor about a date/time to meet should send the advisor an email to set up an appointment.

As part of orientation to the School of Nursing, students complete the Program Planner within the PeopleSoft/Student Administration system. Please be sure to keep this updated with any changes that are made throughout the program.

Registration ‘holds’ in Student Administration/Peoplesoft may be placed for any requirements that need to be completed. Please identify the type of hold placed and follow instructions on how to lift the hold or notify the appropriate department. Registration holds may take 24 hours to be lifted after the completed requirements.

Communication

1. The UConn email system is the official communication system in the SON. Students are encouraged to check it regularly (daily) for important updates from the SON and faculty members.
2. SON e-mail communications between students, staff, and faculty members should be **addressed within 2 business days** following receipt of the message. This is to foster prompt communication between advisors and advisees as well as assist with coordination of educational experiences.
3. As a rule, if a conflict arises between a student and another individual, it is best to attempt to address the concern first with the individual. If the conflict remains unresolved, one or both parties should address the concern with the course instructor, faculty advisor, and/or the respective Graduate Track Director.
4. In instances where the conflict remains unresolved despite talking with the faculty advisor or Graduate Track Director, the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies can be contacted to facilitate mediation or deliver a final decision on the matter.

General Policies

Please note that all nursing students are required to have a laptop computer with a minimum set of specifications identified in the [UITS Recommendations](#).

All University of Connecticut students also have full access to Microsoft Office, Microsoft Windows, and other software. These resources are delivered at no charge through [the online portal](#).

Cell Phone & Smart Watch Usage

Cell phone and smart watch usage in the clinical agency settings will be compliant with the agency policy. Clinical, simulation, and classroom instructors may impose additional rules.

Procedure for taking an exam

Courses developed with eCampus and/or that are part of a fully online certificate or degree program require two methods of authentication. Exams are administered either through HuskyCT in a remote proctored environment or a live proctoring service, where the student must display a photo ID at the start of the exam. The student must be in the room at the start of the exam; if the student leaves the room for any reason, the exam will be collected/submitted as done.

Policy and Procedures for missed exams/assignments/assessments

Missed Exam Policy. Exams are expected to be taken as scheduled in the course syllabus. Emergencies are the only reasons to miss scheduled exams such as illness or death of a loved one. Please note that examples of unacceptable reasons for missed exams include vacations, previously purchased tickets or reservations, social events, misreading the exam schedule, and work obligations. Written communication is required by the student via email with a completed Examination Absence Form (Appendix A) sent to the instructor as soon as possible after becoming aware that an exam will be missed. The Examination Absence Form is filed in the students' record. An alternate time can be arranged between student and instructor to schedule a make-up exam. Exams should be made up within one week unless there are extenuating circumstances. The policy for exams scheduled during the final exam period set by the university is subject to UConn policy.

If, when, and how missed assignments/assessments will be handled are identified in each individual course syllabus.

Final Exams

In accordance with UConn policy, students are required to be available for their final exam and/or complete any assessment during the time stated. If they have a conflict with this time of the final exam, they must obtain official permission to schedule a make-up exam with the [Dean of Students Office](#). If permission is granted, the Dean of Students will notify the instructor.

Religious Accommodation Policy

The [Religious Accommodation Policy](#) grants students excused absences from class or other organized academic activities for observance of a sincerely held religious practice or belief as a religious accommodation unless the accommodation would create an undue hardship. Students whose religious holidays are not recognized by the University's calendar should provide the instructor or academic activity organizer with the dates they will be absent in advance of the absence. Students requesting religious accommodation should make the request directly to their instructor with as much notice as possible. Students anticipating an absence or missed coursework due to a sincerely held religious practice or belief should use best efforts to inform their instructor in writing no later than the third week of class, or one week before the absence if a conflict occurs during the first three weeks of class. Being absent from class or other educational responsibilities does not excuse students from keeping up with any information shared or expectations set during the missed class(es). Students are responsible for obtaining the materials and information provided during any class(es) missed. The student can work with the instructor to determine a schedule for making up missed work.

Grading Policy:

The University grading policy for [graduate students](#) notes that intermediate calculations of grades throughout a course will be expressed on a 0.00-100.00 scale and will be recorded to two decimal place precision, e.g., 95.00 or 92.67. Final numeric grades for a

course will be based on the average of intermediate grades. Final grade will be rounded, with grades .5 or above rounded up and grades .49 or below rounded down.

Required GPA

A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above must be maintained in order to earn the MS degree. Students must earn a B (3.0) or better in all nursing graduate courses in order to earn credit toward graduation. A student may only repeat one course with a NURS prefix throughout their graduate study. If a student does not earn a C+ or better on the first try, a collaborative decision between the faculty advisor and the student is made to determine if a repeat of the course is appropriate.

Grade Appeals

The UConn University Senate approved [policy](#) addresses the procedure for when a student believes an error in calculating a grade has occurred. Students follow the SON procedures for appealing a course grade if this situation should arise.

Maintenance of Records

It is highly recommended that students retain each course syllabus and other documents acquired throughout the program as part of their professional portfolio. These documents may be needed to pursue certifications, licenses, and other scholarly activities beyond or following program completion.

Student Requests for Change in Major Advisor

If a student wishes to make a change of major advisor (MA), the student must notify their respective Graduate Track Director. After consultation with the Graduate Track Director, the student will notify the current MA, the requested MA, and complete a [Change in Graduate Major Advisor Form](#). This form is then submitted to the Office of the Registrar.

Student Requests for Changing Programs or Tracks

Students who wish to change a program must meet with their MA to discuss the reason(s) for the change and implications for their program of study. The student must rewrite their personal statement that was completed as part of the admissions process to address new career goals and a career plan and submit the revision to the current Graduate Track Director and proposed Graduate Track Director. After submitting the revised personal statement, the student contacts the proposed Graduate Track Director to set up an appointment to discuss the change and determine whether any openings exist. If both Graduate Track Directors approve the change, the student submits a revised program of study in the program planner within the Peoplesoft/Student Administration system.

Student request for clinical placements

Student requests for new or specific clinical sites and/or preceptors are made by completing the [Preceptorship Request Form](#), which is submitted to their Graduate Track Director and MS Program Coordinator. The Graduate Track Director will review and

communicate the approval status of the requested preceptorship to the student. All preceptors and preceptorship sites must be vetted and approved by the Graduate Track Director.

Students with Disabilities

Students who require accommodations should contact the Center for Students with Disabilities, Wilbur Cross Building Room 204, (860) 486-2020 or <http://csd.uconn.edu/>. Once the student is assessed, appropriate accommodation instructions are sent by email to the instructor of record. Only students who complete this process will be granted accommodations.

Student Requests for Faculty Recommendations

Student requests for letters of recommendation should be made by sending an email request through the university email system that specifies the records (academic performance information) that may be disclosed, the purpose of the disclosure, and identifies the individuals or entities to whom the disclosure may be made. Alternatively, the student may complete and send the University's Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) [release form](#).

Zero Tolerance Policy

The University of Connecticut University School of Nursing Faculty approved a policy on zero tolerance for disrespect.

POLICY STATEMENT The University of Connecticut School of Nursing is committed to maintaining and strengthening an environment founded on respect. Disrespect of others based on personal characteristics, including race, color, religion, gender identity or expression, disability, national origin, or citizenship status, is antithetical to the standards and ideals of our school community and of the profession of nursing. It is a violation of the second guiding principle of the SON's philosophy, PRAXIS, and of the first provision of the American Nurses Association Code of Ethics.

ENFORCEMENT Any student believed to have disrespected others based on personal characteristics, including race, color, religion, gender identity or expression, disability, national origin or citizenship status, shall be provided a written description of the alleged violation(s), with a copy to the Dean. Then the University's [Procedures on Student Discipline, Dismissal and Appeal Process from Professional/Clinical Programs](#) ("Procedures") will be followed but the alleged violation will go directly to a hearing body. The hearing body will consist of three faculty members. Any student found by the hearing body to have violated the second guiding principle of the School's philosophy, [PRAXIS](#), and the first provision of the [American Nurses Association Code of Ethics by](#) disrespecting others based on personal characteristics, including race, color, religion,

gender identity or expression, disability, national origin or citizenship status, will be dismissed from the program

Program Requirements and Milestones

The MS program curriculum is guided by the Essentials of Master's Education in Nursing (AACN, 2011) and prepares students for the nurse practitioner role in accordance with the Consensus Model for APRN Regulation: Licensure, Accreditation, Certification and Education (July 2008).

All tracks in the MS program share a set of courses, called core courses, which include specific learning objectives required for advanced nursing practice. These online courses include:

NURS 5012 Nursing Science and Patterns of Knowing
NURS 5020 Statistical Methods in Nursing
NURS 5030 Nursing Research for Clinical Scholarship.
NURS 5035 Evidence-Based Practice to Advance Clinical Scholarship
NURS 5870 Health Policy and Populations-Based Advocacy for the Scholarship of Application.

The NP and MS Nurse Educator tracks require three role courses which provide education in advanced pathophysiology, advanced pharmacology, and advanced health assessment. Upon passing the three role courses, NP students will begin their clinical courses with a qualified preceptor and nurse educator students will begin their capstone experience. Students are required to meet all pre-clinical requirements (see below) by the published deadlines in order to register for the appropriate clinical practicums or capstone courses in the subsequent semester.

Pre-Clinical Requirements

Policy: All students participating in clinical learning experiences at UConn SON must be in compliance with health clearance policies as required by UConn and clinical agencies in which students perform their clinical hours. The student is responsible for providing UConn SON with evidence of health status, immunity, and education by the published deadline as well as maintaining compliance throughout their academic program. Inability to meet deadlines or compliance standards will limit the student's ability to be placed in a clinical agency and complete the program. Students are required to create an account in American Databank's (ADB) [Complio](#) system, enter their information, and upload the required documents by the published deadlines. Requirements and deadlines may be found through [Office of Clinical Placement Coordination](#).

Purpose of Policy: UConn School of Nursing students have clinical learning experiences and are expected to provide direct care to patients in a variety of clinical settings as part of their training. Nurse Educator and Nurse Leader students perform their capstone experiences in patient care settings. This contact places students at risk for both exposure

to and transmission of communicable diseases and blood-borne pathogens. Therefore, specific procedures are needed to: (1) decrease health risks to students, (2) protect patients and other healthcare professionals with whom the student interacts, and (3) comply with UConn SON healthcare agency contracts, federal Occupation Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations, and Connecticut State Department of Health policies. Please note that all health clearance requirements are based on the requirements mandated by clinical agencies where students complete their clinical hours.

Health Requirements/ Background Checks / Drug Testing

Nursing students are required to complete a series of clinical learning experiences in order to successfully meet the learning outcomes of their program of study. Prior to participating in clinical learning experiences, students are required to complete health and immunization requirements, a criminal background check and a drug test by the [published deadlines](#). Each clinical facility has policies regarding required health documents, possible convictions and potential drug use that may bar students from being accepted at the facility for clinical placement. If a student is not accepted to an assigned placement because of their health or immunization status, the findings of a background check or drug screen, UConn School of Nursing does not guarantee an alternate clinical placement. School of Nursing policy dictates that students who are unable to complete clinical requirements for any reason will be subject to dismissal from the program. The procedure for completing a criminal background check and a drug test is done through the American DataBank Company. Please note that each student is responsible for covering the costs for their health requirements, background check and the drug screen. If you have any questions or concerns related to the background check or drug screen, please contact the student support team at ocpc.compliance@uconn.edu.

Clinical Policies

In addition to the pre-clinical requirements, the following requirements and policies apply to clinical experiences:

Transportation

Students must have a means of reliable transportation and cover cost of travel and parking to the clinical agencies. There is no guarantee that a student's clinical site will be on a bus or train line or near other students for carpooling. Carpooling, cab, Uber, or other similar services are not a form of reliable transportation to use for clinical rotations. Students without a means of reliable transportation cannot enroll in clinical courses, and risk dismissal from a clinical course if not able to meet clinical requirements due to transportation issues.

Requirements for clinical practice in five areas of motor, sensory, communication, behavior, and critical thinking skills

The clinical setting presents unique challenges and responsibilities for nursing students caring for patients in a variety of health care environments. In addition to academic qualifications, UConn nursing students must possess the ability to consistently demonstrate proficiency in five core areas for nursing students. Specifically: motor, sensory, communication, behavior, and critical thinking skills. These areas reflect the

reasonable expectations of a nursing student performing the common functions of a registered nurse and/or an advanced practice nurse. In adopting these standards, we are mindful of the patient's right to safe and quality health care.

The ability to consistently demonstrate these personal and professional competencies are essential from admittance to graduation. Students must be capable of performing the skills of a nursing student.

Therefore, each nursing student must have the ability to learn and perform the following competencies and skills:

Motor: The student must possess sufficient motor capabilities to execute the movements and skills required to provide safe and effective nursing interventions. These include, but are not limited to:

1. Coordination, speed, and agility to assist and safely guard (protect), with safe and proper body mechanics, patients who are ambulating, transferring, or performing other activities.
2. Ability to adjust and position equipment and patients, which involves bending or stooping freely to floor level and reaching above the head.
3. Ability to move throughout the classroom/clinical site, sit and stand for long periods of time to carry out patient care activities.
4. Ability to perform patient care duties for up to 12 hours at a time, day, or night.
5. Ability to move or position patients and equipment, which involves lifting, carrying, pulling, up to and including 30 pounds.
6. Ability to guide, resist, and assist patients, or to provide emergency care, which involves the activities of standing, kneeling, sitting, or walking.
7. Ability and dexterity to manipulate the devices used in giving nursing care.
8. Ability to administer CPR without assistance.

Sensory: The student must possess the ability to obtain information in classroom, laboratory or clinical settings through observation, auscultation, palpation, and other measures, including but not limited to:

1. Visual ability (corrected as necessary) to recognize and interpret facial expressions and body language, identify normal and abnormal patterns of movement, to read or set parameters on various equipment, to discriminate color changes, and to interpret and assess the environment.
2. Auditory ability (corrected as necessary) to recognize and respond to soft voices, auditory timers, equipment alarms, call bells, and to effectively use devices for measurement of blood pressure, breath sounds, etc.
3. Tactile ability to palpate a pulse and to detect changes or abnormalities of surface texture, skin temperature, body contour, muscle tone, and joint movement.
4. Sufficient position, movement, and balance sensations to assist and safely guard (protect) patients who are ambulating, transferring, or performing other activities.

Communication: The student must be able to utilize effective communication with peers, faculty, patients and their families, and other health care providers. This includes, but is not limited to:

1. Ability to read at a competency level that allows one to safely carry out the essential functions of an assignment (examples; handwritten chart data, printed policy, and procedure manuals).
2. Ability to effectively interpret and process information.
3. Ability to effectively communicate (verbally and in writing) with patients/families, health care professionals, and others within the community.
4. Ability to access information and to communicate and document effectively via computer.
5. Ability to recognize, interpret, and respond to nonverbal behavior of self and others.

Behavior: The student must be capable of exercising good judgment, developing empathic and therapeutic relationships with patients and others, and tolerating close and direct physical contact with a diverse population. This will include people of all ages, races, socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds, as well as individuals with weight disorders, physical disfigurement and medical or mental health problems. This also includes, but is not limited to:

1. Ability to work with multiple patients/families and colleagues at the same time.
2. Ability to work with classmates, instructors, health care providers, patients, families, and others under stressful conditions, including but not limited to providing care to medically or emotionally unstable individuals, situations requiring rapid adaptations, the provision of CPR, or other emergency interventions.
3. Ability to foster and maintain cooperative and collegial relationships with classmates, instructors, other health care providers, patients, and their families.

Critical Thinking: The student must possess sufficient abilities in the areas of calculation, critical problem solving, reasoning, and judgment to be able to comprehend and process information within a reasonable time frame as determined by the faculty and the profession. The student must be able to prioritize, organize and attend to tasks and responsibilities efficiently. This includes, but is not limited to:

1. Ability to collect, interpret and analyze written, verbal and observed data about patients.
2. Ability to prioritize multiple tasks, integrate information and make decisions.
3. Ability to apply knowledge of the principles, indications, and contraindications for nursing interventions.
4. Ability to act safely and ethically in the college clinical lab and in clinical placements within the community.

If a nursing applicant or student is unable to meet one or more of these areas, due to a disability (long or short term), s/he may request consideration for an accommodation

through the [Center for Students with Disabilities](#). Prompt notice is essential for full consideration. The requirements for clinical practice apply for all programs which include a clinical component.

Social Media Policy

The SON has adopted the American Nurses Association 2011 Six Principles for Social Networking as outlined on the ANA website:

1. Nurses must not transmit or place online individually identifiable patient information. Nurses must know their legal and ethical responsibilities, as well as their own organization's policies, regarding their responsibility to protect patient privacy, whether online or offline. Merely removing someone's name (or face, in the instance of images) from a communication does not necessarily protect that person's identity. Under federal law (HIPAA), protected "individually identifiable information" includes health information that identifies the individual or *can reasonably be used* to identify the individual, in any form (oral, written, or otherwise) that relates to the past, present, or future physical or mental health of an individual.
2. Nurses who interact with patients on social media must observe ethically prescribed patient-nurse professional boundaries. The precepts guiding nurses in these matters are no different online than in person.
3. Nurses should evaluate all their postings with the understanding that a patient, colleague, educational institution, or employer could potentially view those postings. Online content and behaviors have the potential to either enhance or undermine not only the individual nurse's career, but also the nursing profession.
4. Nurses should take advantage of privacy settings available on many social networking sites in their personal online activities and seek to separate their online personal and professional sites and information. Use of privacy settings and separation of personal and professional information online does not guarantee, however, that information will not be repeated in less protected forums.
5. As the patient's advocate, nurses have an ethical obligation to take appropriate action regarding instances of questionable healthcare delivery at an individual or systems level that reflect incompetent, unethical, illegal, or impaired practice. Nurses who view social media content posted by a colleague that violates ethical or legal standards should first bring the questionable content to the attention of the colleague so that the individual can take appropriate action.

If the posting could threaten a patient's health, welfare, or right to privacy regarding health information, the nurse has the obligation to report the matter to a supervisor or designated person within the institution or entity for follow-up. If the questionable practice is not addressed in the employment setting and seriously jeopardizes the patient's safety and well-being, the nurse may need to report the

problem to external authorities. Accurate reporting and factual documentation—not merely opinion—should always support such responsible actions.

6. Nurses are encouraged to participate in the development of policies and procedures in their institutions and organizations for handling reports of online conduct that may raise legal concerns or be professionally unethical. Such official channels can protect the rights of those participating and can offer remedial action for the patient, while offering fairness, support, and non-punitive correction and training for a nurse's inadvertent mistakes.

Body Fluids Exposure

In the event a UCONN Nursing student or faculty is exposed to blood or body fluids during a clinical practicum the following protocol is to be implemented.

1. Administer first aid
 - a. Irrigate the exposed area as soon as possible.
 - b. STUDENT: Notify your clinical instructor immediately.
2. Gather information
 - a. Identify the source patient and mechanism of exposure/injury
 - b. Identify source patient's HIV and Hepatitis status
3. Present to the nearest Emergency Department immediately (this will be at student/faculty expense)
 - a. Post-exposure treatment for HIV must begin 1 – 2 hours post-exposure
4. Follow-up Care
 - a. STUDENTS
 - i. Present to Student Health Services Infection Control nurse after you have been treated in an Emergency Department
 - ii. Participate in 3- and 6-month follow-up at Student Health Services
 - b. FACULTY
 - i. Present to your own personal health care provider

REMEMBER

This exposure needs to be documented in an "Incident Report" at the agency where the exposure took place using agency guidelines.

Resources

1. Curriculum

<https://nursing.online.uconn.edu/#masters>

2. Net Id and listserv

<https://its.uconn.edu/services/applications/uconn-lists-listserv/>

3. Writing resources

<https://writingcenter.uconn.edu/overview-of-grad-support/>

4. Insurance

<https://shs.uconn.edu/insurance-information/>

6. Academic calendar

<https://registrar.uconn.edu/academic-calendar/>

7. Forms

<https://registrar.uconn.edu/forms/>

8. University of Connecticut Policies

<https://policy.uconn.edu>

9. Financial Support

Financial resources for graduate students are listed on our webpage at <https://nursing.uconn.edu/financial-assistance/>

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