



May 28, 2020

Mountain Health Network Plan for Resuming Clinical Education Rotations

The vision of Mountain Health Network is to create a world-class health system that delivers compassionate and innovative care enhanced by education, research and technology. An important component of achieving that vision is to help prepare the next generation of healthcare providers by providing a safe clinical learning environment through educational partnerships with other institutions. Clinical Education Rotations were temporarily interrupted in the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic. Based on declining community spread of COVID-19, adequate personal protective equipment (PPE) and implementation of safety measures to protect students, a phased approach to resuming clinical education rotations for students within CHH and SMMC has been developed.

In addition, the following points must be emphasized by the clinical coordinators and instructors from each sponsoring educational institution:

- Each student must provide his/her own eye protection/goggles to be worn when working with patients.
- Each student must provide his/her own cloth mask to be utilized when in the facility but not providing direct patient care.
- Each institution will provide hospital-approved masks for direct patient care.
- No students are permitted in COVID-pending or COVID-confirmed patient rooms at this time.
- No students are permitted in airborne isolation patient rooms at this time.
- No students are permitted in any room during a resuscitation event.
- In the OR/procedural areas and rooms, no students will be in COVID-confirmed cases or in emergent/unscreened cases.

Mountain Health Network reserves the right to alter or cease clinical rotations at any time without notice related to infectious disease outbreaks, civic declarations of emergency, PPE supply and demand issues, etc.

The phasing-in plan is proposed as follows:

June 1:

Medical Students OUTSIDE of OR/procedural areas and rooms

Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant

Surgery Tech

CRNA

Pharmacy

Speech

Cardiac Rehab (there is one student who needs many hours)

June 8:

Medical Students added to inside of OR/procedural areas and rooms
Nursing students to nursing units
Medical Imaging
Respiratory Therapy

June 15:

MLT/MLS
Rehab: PT/OT/PTA
Interns: Health Care Administration/Leadership preceptorships (e.g. BSN, MSN, DNP)

August 3:

Paramedic/EMT

August 24 and beyond:

At this time, many fall semesters begin and there will be an influx of students, especially nursing students, from St. Mary's School of Nursing, Marshall University, and other regional institutions.

For Fall Semester, clinical requests are due by July 1, 2020. Priority of clinical placement will be as follows:

1. Marshall University medical students and other health-related students/St. Mary's Center for Education students
2. West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine students
3. In-state facilities
4. Out-of-state facilities

As we move forward into the Fall Semester, shadowing experiences will be limited to students from local/regional institutions.

Anyone shadowing must provide his/her own cloth mask and eye protection. Shadowing opportunities will be available on a limited basis and remain contingent upon the current environment and any imposed civic restrictions. The feasibility of facilitating high school health science rotations will be evaluated at a later date.

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