



## Max Rady College of Medicine Policy

<b>Policy Name:</b>	Student Immune Status Requirements
<b>Application/ Scope:</b>	Max Rady College of Medicine
<b>Approved (Date):</b>	
<b>Review Date:</b>	July 2023
<b>Revised (Date):</b>	July 2018
<b>Approved By:</b>	UGME Management Committee [June 2018] MPAS Curriculum Committee [July 2018] College Executive Council [August 2018] Faculty of Graduate Studies Program & Guideline [November 2018] Faculty of Graduate Studies Faculty Council [December 2018] Senate Committee on Instruction and Evaluation [February 2019] Senate Executive [March 2019] Senate [April 2019]

### 1. PURPOSE

The Student Immune Status Requirements policy has been developed to protect the wellbeing of healthcare students, and the health of patients and communities with whom they will have contact during the curriculum. The Immune Status Requirements are derived from recommendations found in the *Canadian Immunization Guide* (<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/canadian-immunization-guide.html>) and the *Canadian Tuberculosis Standards* (<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/infectious-diseases/canadian-tuberculosis-standards-7th-edition.html>), as well as in consultation with experts in the relevant fields.

### 2. DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 **Immune Status Requirements** – Immunizations and tests necessary for students to have documented in order to ensure immunity to, or absence of infection from, a range of vaccine preventable diseases. This includes immunizations and/or tests for tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, varicella, Hepatitis B, and influenza, as well as testing for tuberculosis infection.
- 2.2 **Rady Faculty of Health Sciences Immunization Program ("Immunization Program")** – A program which provides services to all healthcare students at the Bannatyne Campus. Activities involve assessing the immune status of students, and offering optional limited healthcare services on site to students. The Immunization Program provides services to all College of Dentistry, College of Pharmacy, College of Rehabilitation Sciences, Genetic Counselling, Max Rady College of Medicine, Pathology Assistant, Physician Assistant Studies, and School of Dental Hygiene students.
- 2.3 **Student Manual** – A document updated annually which describes the Immune Status Requirements for students enrolled in the Max Rady College of Medicine. The document also provides information on vaccines, vaccine preventable diseases, privacy legislation, costs of services, and additional health information relevant to students.

### 3. POLICY STATEMENTS

- 3.1 All students must comply with the immunization and testing requirements of the Max Rady College of Medicine, posted online in the Student Manual. The Student Manual is required reading for all new students.
  - For the Student Manual, visit the link:  
[http://www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/health\\_sciences/medicine/education/undergraduate/immunestatus.html](http://www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/health_sciences/medicine/education/undergraduate/immunestatus.html).
- 3.2 Students may be granted an exemption from a specific immunization or test requirement for a medical or health condition; such conditions will generally fall under one of the following categories: allergy, pregnancy or family planning, and immunosuppression. Different immunization or testing requirements may be indicated for such students.
- 3.3 The Immunization Program shall provide an information session regarding Immune Status Requirements for newly registered students in the MD, MD/PhD, or MPAS program. This information session shall be scheduled as early as practicable following registration; attendance shall be mandatory.
- 3.4 The Immune Status Requirements may change from time to time. The Immunization Program shall discuss and seek approval for changes from all programs whose students are monitored by the Immunization Program. The Immunization Program shall notify students of the changes in requirements. It is the responsibility of students to comply with revised and applicable requirements as soon as practicable following notification.
- 3.5 Students who do not comply with Immune Status Requirements may be restricted from participation in components of the academic program. A student's continued non-compliance may result in the student being asked to withdraw from the program in which the student is registered.
- 3.6 The Immunization Program can assist students in meeting the requirements of a specific external teaching site if these are different from the requirements of the Max Rady College of Medicine.
- 3.7 Student health records are protected by *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) and *The Personal Health Information Act* (PHIA) of Manitoba. Only the minimal amount of health information required will be collected, used, or disclosed. On occasion records may be obtained from, or shared with, certain individuals or organizations as necessary in order to determine a student's ability to participate in patient-related activities in the student's current program of study.
- 3.8 The Immunization Program will comply with The Workplace Safety and Health Act of Manitoba (<https://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/statutes/ccsm/w210e.php>); in particular, that for "any person undergoing training or serving an apprenticeship at an educational institution or at any other place" for work in a healthcare facility, the University must provide the student "information about any vaccine recommended in the Canadian Immunization Guide published under authority of the Minister of Health (Canada)" and arrange for the student "to receive the recommended vaccine and pay any associated costs".
- 3.9 The immune status record for every student will be kept for a minimum of 10 years after the student's expected date of graduation. Eventually the Immunization Program will destroy all immune status record in a secure and confidential manner, consistent with accepted methods of disposal of health records. Students may request a copy of their record at any time while the program has these records. All students shall receive a copy of their immune status record upon graduation.
- 3.10 This policy will be reviewed on the first anniversary of its original passage and every five years thereafter.

#### 4. **PROCEDURES**

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENT

- 4.1 All students must comply with the immunization and testing requirements of the Max Rady College of Medicine. Students who may have a medical or health condition necessitating a possible exemption from a specific immunization or test requirement must notify the Immunization Program.
- 4.2 Students must attend the immune status orientation session at the beginning of their first year of studies.
- 4.3 Students must notify the Immunization Program if they wish to receive clinical services relating to the Immune Status Requirements from their own healthcare provider, or from the Immunization Program.
- 4.4 Students who have decided to obtain services from their own healthcare provider must provide documentation of the relevant immunizations and tests by the deadlines provided. Students who have decided to obtain services from the Immunization Program must attend school clinics or attend for blood testing diligently.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTOR, IMMUNIZATION

- 4.5 The Director, Immunization oversees and directs the operations of the Immunization Program; this includes but is not limited to:
- Reviewing national immunization and testing guidelines; updating existing documents and health forms provided to students;
  - Reviewing all health documentation sent to or obtained by the Immunization Program;
  - Contacting students to obtain additional information or clarification;
  - Providing an immune status orientation session for new students;
  - Creating an immunization clinic schedule including individual student notices;
  - Organizing and provides training sessions for student immunizers;
  - Supervising immunization and tuberculin skin test clinic for student clients;
  - Reminding students when serological testing is overdue;
  - Editing and approving letters for students;
  - Completing immunization forms for external electives;
  - Bringing issues of concern to the attention of the Business Manager, UGME, Program Director MPAS, the Associate Dean, UGME, and/or the Dean of Medicine;
  - Remaining available to students as a source of information regarding immunizations and tests;
  - Participating on national committees regarding external elective requirements.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM ASSISTANT

- 4.6 The Immunization Program Assistant supports the operations of the Immunization Program; this includes but is not limited to:
- Receiving and processing Immunization Packages from new students;
    - For the Immunization Package, visit the link:  
[http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/health\\_sciences/medicine/education/undergraduate/immunestatus.html](http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/health_sciences/medicine/education/undergraduate/immunestatus.html).
  - Receiving and processing immunization and testing documentation sent to the Immunization Program;
  - Printing off a copy of the students' provincial immunization registry records
  - Creating student health files;
  - Distributing to students immunization clinic schedules;
  - Assisting with the organization and set up of training sessions for student immunizers;
  - Assisting with the organization and set up of immunization and tuberculin skin test clinics for student clients;

- Sending immunization records to public health for entry into the provincial immunization registry;
- Copying records for students on request, and at graduation;
- Reminding students when serological testing is overdue;
- Creating letters for students at the request of the Director, Immunization;
- Processing completed immunization forms for external electives;
- Bringing issues of concern to the attention of the Director, Immunization or the Business Manager, UGME;
- Acting as the first point of contact for students requesting additional information or assistance from the Immunization Program.

5. **POLICY CONTACT**

Please contact the Director, Immunization with questions respecting this policy.