

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Acting Commissioner




Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

BLAST FAX 2020-57

TO: Health Care Facilities

FROM: Commissioner Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH 

CC: Deputy Commissioner Heather Aaron, MPH, LNHA
Barbara Cass, RN., Branch Chief, Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch
Donna Ortelle, Section Chief, Facility Licensing and Investigations Section

DATE: May 18, 2020

SUBJECT: Nursing Student Clinical Rotations

Pursuant to Blast Fax, 2020-44, regarding student clinical rotations and clinical hours, please be reminded that prior to students resuming the rotations, it is integral they be educated in infection control principles regarding the care of a patient with an infectious disease, with a particular focus on hand hygiene, and donning and doffing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

While currently, agreements between schools and clinical rotation sites delineate responsibilities, it must be very clear in such agreements, who will be providing PPE, and the scope of the clinical assignments, e.g. will students be caring for individuals who are positive for COVID-19. If there is a plan for the student to participate in any aerosolizing procedures, they must be fitted for an N95 mask. It is essential that prior to the assumption of any clinical rotations, any agreements regarding the supply of PPE and the role the student will have in the care of a resident/patient who has been diagnosed with COVID 19 be clearly specified.

Should you have any questions, please call Susan Newton, Supervising Nurse Consultant at 860-509-8018.



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