



Communicable Disease Policy and Procedure

*Definition of Communicable Disease: a disease that can be transmitted directly or indirectly from one individual to another.

Students in the Athletic Training Program (ATP) must demonstrate protection against communicable disease transmission before being allowed to participate in healthcare settings. The strategy to limit communicable disease transmission is to:

1. Complete a physical examination and provide evidence of necessary immunizations or titers indicating immunity (according to the CDC recommendations for healthcare professionals) upon entry to the ATP (see 10.10 above)
2. ATP students must complete yearly training in the handling of blood borne pathogens and infectious agents as specified by the Occupational and Safety Health Administration (See 10.12 below)

The Shenandoah University ATP strives to ensure a healthy and safe environment for all students, faculty members, preceptors and their respective patients/athletes/clients. Therefore, in the event an ATP student contracts a communicable disease that could jeopardize other students, faculty, preceptors, or patient/athletes, the athletic training student (ATS) should:

1. Seek immediate medical attention for formal evaluation from an MD/DO, NP or PA. Inform the practitioner who is doing this evaluation that you are a MSAT student that has daily contact with other program students, faculty, and patient/athletes.
2. The ATS needs to present written documentation from the practitioner above who did the evaluation in regards to medical clearance to participate or any restrictions on attending class or CFE.
3. The ATS needs to keep the PD, CEC, and preceptors in the loop regarding any class or CFE restrictions.
4. As long as an ATS is deemed to be contagious by an MD/DO, NP or PA, the ATS will not be allowed to attend CFE.
5. The ATS will not be allowed to return to CFE until medical documentation is provided showing that the student is safe for patient/athlete contact by the practitioner following this case.
6. In the event of prolonged illness from communicable disease, the ATS needs to work with the PD and CEC to determine best options regarding completing the necessary course requirements. Prolonged illness will be handled on a case by case process. If there is time to make up classroom and CFE hours within the confines of the semester, then a plan will be made and the student will meet the semester requirements in the normal timeframe. If the illness time frame is too extended for normal semester completion, the student will receive the grade of "I" (incomplete). Depending on the situation, the "I" will be resolved the following semester or the student will have to sit out of the program and cycle back in the following academic year. (See 10.5 Leave of Absence)

The conditions below are those that the School of Health Professions has determined should indicate that a student should not go to CFE:

- Fever
- Severe diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Active phase HIV, hepatitis
- Pink eye

Minor Illnesses

- These can be managed by handwashing, hygiene, etc; therefore, the ATS can attend CFE with these conditions.



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I, _____, have read, understand and agree to comply with this policy.

Student Signature

Date

Witness Signature

Date

Program Director Signature

Date