

Health & Fitness Curriculum Area

Immune Status Policy

CAP Document

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The Health and Fitness Curriculum Area at Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology (NMIT) is committed to have in place appropriate risk management procedures which support an individual's right to a safe and healthy work environment. This policy has been developed to meet the requirements of the different Health Services policies on Blood Borne Viruses and Standard Blood and Body Fluid Precautions, which all students are required to familiarise themselves with.

All prospective students will be required to provide serology evidence of their immune status, and sign the attached Immune Status Declaration, and Serology Record document, before returning both to the Health and Fitness Curriculum Area.

The Immune Status declaration requires a prospective student to provide evidence of their immune status through serology screening (**blood test**) for the following: Hepatitis A & B, Measles, Varicella (Chicken Pox), Rubella, Mumps, and Tuberculosis (TB).

Failure to present the documentation will preclude you from participation in clinical practice.

If laboratory tests indicate that a prospective student is **not** immune to Hepatitis A & B, Measles, Varicella (Chicken Pox), Rubella, Mumps, and Tuberculosis (TB), they need to arrange vaccination.

If a prospective student decides against vaccination, they need to be aware that this decision could limit their access to certain clinical practice areas. The clinical practice areas that currently restrict access to non immunised health care providers are those involving children, pregnant women, and the immune suppressed. This may impact your ability to meet competency as per the Nursing Council of New Zealand requirements for Registered Nurse scope of practice.

All students will be required to sign the declaration indicating their agreement to work within the Immune Status Policy of the Health and Fitness Curriculum Area. They will also agree to abide by the policies and procedures of each clinical placement area in relation to Blood Borne Viruses and Standard Blood and Body Fluid Precautions (Universal Precautions).

Protection against Hepatitis A & B, and Tetanus is **strongly** recommended, as is a booster vaccination every ten years for Pertussis (Whooping Cough).

It is also recommended that students in clinical placement during the influenza season (1st May to 30th September) be vaccinated against influenza, as they pose a risk to immune compromised persons such as pregnant women, the elderly, and persons with chronic heart or lung diseases.

All serology tests and vaccinations will be at the prospective student's **own expense**.

Policy Name:	Date Approved:	Date for Review:
Immune Status Policy	October 2018	August 2019

Health & Fitness Curriculum Area

Serology Screening Information

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Name: (first and surname only) _____ **Date of birth:** _____

Address: c/- NMIT – Nursing Private Bag 19 – Nelson - 7042

Pre entry requirement to the Certificate in Nursing (CAP) Programme - **required prior to programme commencement.**

Blood serology required to determine immune status for:	<u>These are approximate costs only, please check with your health professional</u>
Hepatitis B:	
Surface Antibodies	\$22.50
Antigens	\$22.50
Hepatitis A	\$22.50
Measles	\$33.50
Varicella	\$33.50
Rubella	\$26.00
Mumps	\$33.50
TB (Quantiferon – Gold)	\$81.50

Additional Fees

A one-time drawing up fee of \$ 13.00 will apply to blood tests.

Please be aware that all blood tests need to be at the Nelson Districts Med Laboratory (Southern Communities Laboratories) **before 11am Monday to Friday**. Prospective students will not be able to have blood work drawn if they arrive outside of this time frame.

Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA)

Screening for MRSA, if required, **will be undertaken in class**. Screening for MRSA will be at the student's **own expense** (MRSA current screening cost is \$45.00 X 2 swabs).

International Students are strongly advised to undertake MRSA screening (nares, peri anal, open wounds, sores or skin rashes), prior to arrival in New Zealand.

Should you have any questions please contact:

Pearl Allen
Clinical Placement Coordinator
Health & Fitness Curriculum Area
Phone 03 5395135

Health & Fitness Curriculum Area

Immune Status Declaration

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Please complete and sign this document and return to the Health and Fitness Curriculum Area before the start of your programme. Failure to present documentation will prevent you from participating in clinical practice

1. I have undertaken serology screening Yes

Date:

I have provided evidence of my immune status, as attached. Yes

No

Rationale for not attaching evidence:

AND

2. I agree to complete a vaccination course (where laboratory tests indicate necessity) at my own expense. I will provide evidence of my serology results to the Clinical Coordinator for the Health and Fitness Curriculum Area.

Yes

OR

3. I have decided against vaccination. I accept the responsibility for non-vaccination and understand the implications of this choice.

Yes

I agree to work within the Immune Status Policy of the Health and Fitness Curriculum Area at NMIT. I acknowledge I fully understand the risk to myself, and the implications of non-vaccination if I am exposed to contaminated body fluids during the course of my programme. I understand that I am required to work within the policies and procedures of each clinical placement related to Blood Borne Viruses and Standard Blood and Body Fluid Precautions (Universal Precautions).

Name: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Witness: _____

Date: _____

Health & Fitness Curriculum Area

Serology Record

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Please complete and sign this document and return to the Health and Fitness Curriculum Area before the start of your programme. Failure to present documentation will prevent you from participating in clinical practice.

Antibody Status - (Documents attached – Please tick) (✓)	
Varicella	
Measles	
Rubella	
Mumps	
Hepatitis A	
Hepatitis B	

Tuberculosis (TB)	
Exposure or diagnosed with TB (please circle)	Yes/No/Unsure
BCG vaccinated (please circle)	Yes/No/Unsure
Quantiferon Gold blood test: (date completed)	Result Attached: (please tick)

Protection against Hepatitis A & B, and Tetanus is **strongly** recommended, as is a booster vaccination every ten years for Pertussis (Whooping Cough).

It is also recommended that students in clinical placement during the influenza season (1st May to 30th September) be vaccinated against influenza, as they pose a risk to immune compromised persons such as pregnant women, the elderly and persons with chronic heart or lung diseases.

All serology tests and vaccinations will be at the prospective student's **own expense**.

Name of applicant: _____

Your contact telephone number: _____

Signature of applicant: _____ Date: _____