



Team Name: Communicable Disease/Immunization Team	Reference Number: CLI.6210.PL.006
Team Lead: Regional Manager – Public Health Healthy Living	Program Area: Public Health Healthy Living
Approved by: Executive Director - North	Policy Section: General
Issue Date: November 1, 2017	Subject: Immunization - Administration by a Regulated Health Professional Student
Review Date:	
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POLICY SUBJECT:

Immunization- Administration by a Regulated Health Professional Student

PURPOSE:

To provide guidance on safe and competent administration and documentation of vaccine by a student within a regulated health profession where immunization is within their scope of practice.

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE:

- Executive Limitation (EL-2) Treatment of Clients
- Executive Limitation (EL-1) Treatment of Staff
- Executive Limitation (EL-7) Asset Protection and Risk Management

POLICY:

Regulated health professional students are able to immunize in the community setting under the supervision of a Public Health Nurse provided the student has completed the necessary educational institute learning requirements for safe and competent vaccine administration **and** Southern Health-Santé Sud's *Immunization Provider Module* including the demonstration of immunization with documentation on the Critical Elements Checklist.

DEFINITIONS:

Student – Any individual currently enrolled in a post-secondary institution for a regulated health profession seeking to be or currently enrolled in an unpaid educational placement within Southern Health-Santé Sud.

Senior Practicum Nursing Student – Experience intended to facilitate the student nurse's transition to professional practice in a supportive and caring environment. During this time, students learn how to synthesize knowledge and skills gained from previous course work and apply it to a select client population. Students are assigned to experienced nurses (preceptors) who serve as role models, teachers and advisors as the student endeavors to become a competent, safe and confident nurse.

Competence – Competence requires knowledge, judgment and technical skills. Competence for immunization for public health placed practicum students comes from knowledge gained from their education, the Immunization Provider Module, Education Program for Immunization Competency (EPIC) and knowledge of the Southern Health-Santé Sud Regional Immunization Policies/Guidelines. Clinical judgement of the health care provider is a development process gained through education, experience and self-confidence in decision making. The development of technical skills begins during education and is enhanced with opportunities to master skills in clinical practice settings.

PROCEDURE:

1. Student completes the Immunization Provider Module (posted on Health Provider Site as a self-learning module in Staff Resources) as a learning pre-requisite prior to immunizing in the community setting.
2. The student observes the Public Health Nurse (PHN) administering vaccines to an infant, child and adult taking note of comfort measures and possible restraints required to administer vaccine safely.
3. The student is observed administering vaccine by the PHN. It is the PHNs responsibility to determine if the student is able to administer vaccine safely and competently prior to signing off on the Checklist.
4. In the event the PHN identifies the need for further instruction, the nurse must provide direction to the student prior to signing off on the Checklist; re-demonstration of skills may be required.
5. Signed Checklist is forwarded the appropriate Public Health Healthy Living Manager.
6. Immunizations administered by the student are documented as follows:
 - On a paper consent form, the student documents and signs the form as the Immunizer
 - When entered into Panorama by a Panorama User, the name of the preceptor/lead PHN is entered as Provider and the name of the student is noted in the comments section.
7. The student does not have security access to independently view or document in Panorama unless granted Panorama User status by a Regional Manager Public Health-Healthy Living.
Exception: where the student nurse is doing a senior practicum with Public Health-Healthy Living, the need for Panorama training with assigned User status will be assessed on a case-by-case basis by the Manager related to the time needed for training and opportunities for immunization during practicum.
8. The student is responsible for:
 - a. Following regional policies and procedures
 - b. Performing tasks and giving care safely, effectively and ethically
 - c. Documenting care given
 - d. Reporting observations and client information to the Public Health Nurse
 - e. Refusing to accept delegation of those acts for which she/he is not competent.