



Master of Science in Athletic Training

**Communicable Disease Policy
for Individuals Seeking the Master of Science in Athletic Training**

The communicable disease policy is designed to provide methods for reducing the transmission of infectious diseases from athletic training personnel (preceptor, athletic training student) to patients and from patients to athletic training personnel. Prevention of transmission of such diseases includes immunizations for vaccine preventable diseases, isolation precautions to prevent exposures to infectious agents, and management of athletic training personnel exposure to infected persons. The objectives of this policy include the following: (1) educate athletic training personnel about the principles of infection control and stressing individual responsibility for infection control; (2) collaborate with other departments to help ensure adequate surveillance of infections in personnel and provision of prevention services; (3) provide care to athletic training personnel for work-related illnesses or exposures; and (4) identify work-related infection risks and instituting appropriate preventative measures. This policy will follow the guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the “SPECIAL ARTICLE: Guideline for infection control in health care personnel, 1998” (Published in *AJIC: American Journal of Infection control* (1998; 26:289-354)) and adapted from the APU Sports Medicine Manual.

Athletic training personnel are encouraged to report any infectious disease/problem/condition to their direct supervisor. Athletic training personnel are restricted from patient contact, or contact with the patient’s environment if they have an infectious communicable disease (See attached Table 3 from the SPECIAL ARTICLE). Athletic training students will report to their preceptor and/or the MSAT Program Director. In the case that athletic training personnel refuse or are unwilling to report their condition to their supervisor for some reason, they must make sure they are restricting themselves from patient contact, or contact with the patient’s environment using the guidelines in Table 3 from the SPECIAL ARTICLE.

Athletic training personnel known to be infected with a communicable disease can be excluded from duty. The type and duration of work restrictions will be dependent upon the type of disease/problem, by the mode of transmission and the epidemiology of the disease (Table 3 from the SPECIAL ARTICLE). The student’s preceptor and/or the MSAT Program Director, in consultation with the MSAT Medical Director, and/or treating Physician, will determine the duration and type of work or clinical restriction imposed for athletic training students using Table 3 from the SPECIAL ARTICLE. Copies of the “SPECIAL ARTICLE, Guideline for infection control in health care personnel, 1998” are available for download at <http://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/pdf/InfectControl98.pdf> and are on file in the office of the MSAT Program Director.

I certify that I have read and understand the communicable disease policy and agree to abide by its requirements for reducing the transmission of infectious diseases.

Name of Student (please print) _____

Signature of Student _____ Date _____