

Policy Name: Nursing Clinical Placement Facility Evaluation
Approving Authority: Academic Council

Policy # AA-019
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Statement

The Nursing Clinical Placement Facility Evaluation Policy of Beal University Canada (“BUC” or the “University”) provides guidance for the ongoing evaluation of clinical sites. The Academic Council will review this policy annually.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the clinical placement facilities chosen for nursing students provide a quality learning environment, are safe for student learning, and offer site infrastructure (including equipment, resources, and personnel) that is sufficient to support the students in successfully completing the clinical competencies.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Dean of Nursing may delegate the review of the site to the Clinical Placement and Lab Coordinator or Clinical Instructor who has direct experience in the field of the placement.

The responsibility requires thorough communication with the senior nursing leadership team at the clinical site to include, but is not limited to:

- Provide and review the University syllabi with detailed course content of clinical requirements, objectives, competencies, and the clinical schedule with the healthcare facility leadership team.
- Ensure the healthcare facility leadership team has designated individual(s) to serve as the point person to the University clinical nursing faculty.
- Ensure the healthcare facility provides a clinical site leadership point person with the relevant qualifications to carry out the required duties.
- Tour the physical site to ensure:
 - Site provides the clinical experience with patients and healthcare procedures required for students to gain experience within the practicum.
 - Proper equipment and supplies are available.
 - Accessibility to patients and healthcare facility personnel is sufficient to support nursing students.
- Ensure the healthcare facility conducts an orientation for clinical faculty and staff.
- Ensure the healthcare facility has proper safety procedures established and communicated to faculty and students which include, but are not limited to fire drills, spills, incidents and near misses, and infection control procedures.
- Ensure the healthcare facility has an established protocol for communicating and addressing issues related to concerns at the Healthcare site identified from the instructor/student to the Dean of Nursing and hence on to the healthcare facility point person.
 - This protocol will include having the point person (Clinical Placement and Lab Coordinator or Clinical Instructor) from BUC inform the Dean if there is an issue related to safety or fit of the establishment. The Dean will then contact the point person, by either email or phone, at the healthcare facility to set up a meeting to discuss the issue.

- Provide and discuss evaluations and feedback from faculty and students pertaining to the experience within the healthcare facility with hospital leadership.
- Obtain evaluations of University faculty and staff from the healthcare facility staff..
- Provide simulated learning to the relevant level, if a clinical rotation site is deemed to no longer be appropriate for a student to continue, until a new site becomes available. This may include:
 - 1 hour of simulated learning to be equal to 2 hours of clinical teaching or
 - 1 hour of lab practice or lab learning to be equal to 1 hour of clinical teaching or
 - a combination of both to a maximum of 50% as outlined by Hayden et al., (2014) or
 - until the point person of that site and University faculty agree that the site rotation may continue, otherwise a new site will be identified.

Policy

The Dean of Nursing (or Clinical Placement and Lab Coordinator or Clinical Instructor) will review all new clinical sites prior to completing a clinical agreement. The evaluations and student surveys will be reviewed and evaluated for each clinical placement. For ongoing clinical placement sites, the Dean of Nursing (or Clinical Placement and Lab Coordinator or Clinical Instructor) will physically visit the sites at least annually and confirm the site is still viable.

The decision to accept a clinical site or reject a clinical site will be made by the Dean of Nursing in consultation with the Vice President of Academics and Nursing faculty.

Related Policies and Documents

Nursing Faculty Clinical Practice Guide