

June 25, 2020 Agenda/Summary Notes

1. Welcome

The purpose of this 3-meeting series: As we move forward in our response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we wish to support the planning, coordination and delivery of student practice education experiences through the following objectives:

- To share information in a timely manner;
- To provide opportunity for dialogue, questions and clarifications;
- To identify potential issues or concerns;
- To gather suggestions, ideas, solutions, and improvements.

2. On the horizon:

- Adapt our coordination and planning processes to respond to the increased need for innovation and flexibility.
- Develop a provincial student practice education website, to be a common resource for all.

3. Provincial Updates and Opening Remarks

a. Melanie Nielsen, Director, Health and Medical Education, Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training

- A Sector Safety Plan is currently being developed and will be available soon.

b. Joanne Maclaren, Executive Director, Nursing Policy Secretariat, Ministry of Health

- The Student Practice Guideline is now with the Assistant Deputy Minister of Health and we anticipate final approval in the next week.

c. Lorrie Cramb, Director, Allied Health Policy Secretariat, Ministry of Health

- Introduced Melody Burgoyne, who will be coordinating the student practice work of the ministries across sectors and disciplines. Welcome, to Melody!

4. Question & Answer Session (grouped by topic):

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Q: There's a concern that if sites don't have adequate PPE supplies that they might not take students. Can there be some reassurances that this won't be the case?

A: Several actions are underway to help minimize the likelihood of this occurring:

- Student data has been provided to be included in the provincial modelling for PPE.

- Additionally, in the coming weeks, each HCO will have student data that can support the sites in ensuring they have sufficient supplies on site.
- PPE is not specific to N95. The primary concern with PPE is with N95 masks, so there may be additional limitations for students and tasks that require N95 so as to balance appropriate preservation of PPE with meeting the learning requirements. Other items of PPE are more readily available.
- HCOs are committed to considering multiple measures in collaboration with PSIs to ensure learning continuity (e.g. destinations, patient assignments, duration, number of students, scheduling, etc.).

Q: I have heard that 3M is no longer shipping 1870+ N95s to Canada. What alternative masks are being used in the health authorities?

A: That is correct. On June 11th, this product change notice was posted:
http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Professionals-Site/Documents/COVID19_PHSА_PCN_N95_3M_1870%20.pdf

Q: Should PSI purchase PPE for students completing their practicums in case of pending PPE shortages if a future pandemic surge hits in the fall and winter?

A: In general, there is no need for PSIs to do this (see above).

Q: We are hearing that Community clinics are not able to source masks (non-N95) and would not be able to accept students.

A: Community clinics that are not part of a health authority have different supply chains for sourcing PPE. This is a known concern in which solutions are currently being sought; more information will be shared as it becomes available.

Single Site Order & Long-term care

Q: Does the PHO override the medical health officer's order in that HA? This is related to only working at one LTC site.

A:

Section F of the Order states:

The risk differs from facility to facility and in different regions of the province, and the medical health officer is in the best position to assess local circumstances and to make decisions about the assignment of staff and to make exemptions;

Further clarification about the roles of the PHO and MHO and congruent messaging is currently being sought and is expected to be included in the upcoming Guideline.

Q: Can students complete a clinical rotation at one LTC placement and then immediately move to another LTC placement to complete a different clinical experience?

A: Yes. At this time, there is no time requirement between roles. A person cannot be at more than one site named in the Order in the same time period.

Q: Do students who work at high risk areas (like grocery stores) need to isolate before going to SSO units like LTC/ PHSA MH

A: [Section H of the Order](#) states:

This Order is not intended to restrict staff from employment that is not at a facility, such as home support, social services, or other employment outside a facility;

Q: Would 3rd year nursing students be able to continue in their LTC placement, even if there is an outbreak?

A: Direction for sites experiencing an outbreak will come from the Medical Health Officer. Likely, there would be a need to change a student placement at a site with an outbreak. The Provincial Practice Education Guideline on Communicable Diseases offers additional information:

http://hspcanada.net/docs/PEG/3_4_Communicable_Disease_Outbreaks.pdf

Q: Is FHA opening up LTC placements to students at this point?

A: Will confirm and follow-up.

Planning and Coordination

Q: For Schools who typically coordinating placements and resolving conflicts, we anticipate that typical mechanisms may not work as well as in the past.

A: Agreed, the typical placement planning processes may need to be augmented in order to coordinate across PSIs and HCOs.

For the HCOs, we have put additional measures in place to review our responses prior to June 30th such as:

- Senior leader approval for any declines to ensure all possible options have been considered;
- Coordination across sites/programs within HCO
- Offering support across HCOs
- LML huddle to monitor responses and identify any potential schools/disciplines/areas that may need further follow-up

Comment: Staff are reminded to 'be safe at work and play' in the context of their role in providing care. Are there opportunities for similar conversations with students?

Q: The regular CDC representative for the provincial DBND program has been seconded to another role. Is the program available for the fall semester?

A: The BC Center for Disease Control is in the midst of updating their available destinations in HSPnet. The Do Bugs Need Drugs program currently has an MPH student. For MPH students, there is a different

process in place (involving project proposals from HCOs to schools on a regular cycle). The available destinations and the disciplines they support at BCCDC will be updated shortly.

Q: How do we find the contacts for Student Practice team contacts for each HA?

A: Contacts for the Health Authority Practice Education Committee are:

- First Nations Health Authority, Professional Practice leader for Nursing, Andrea.Ingstrup@fnha.ca
- Fraser Health, Clinical Practice Consultant, Ivy.Fernando@fraserhealth.ca
- Interior Health, Coordinator, Clinical Student Placement, sarah.donnelly@interiorhealth.ca
- Island Health, Professional Practice, Manager Andrea.Taylor@viha.ca
 - (Monta.Harrison@viha.ca)
- Northern Health, Coordinator, Clinical placements, Sarah.Foot@northernhealth.ca
 - (studentplacements@northernhealth.ca)
- Providence Health Care, Practice Consultant, Sandra Squire at ssquire@providencehealth.bc.ca;
 - ([Wilma.Chang at wchang@providencehealth.bc.ca](mailto:Wilma.Chang@providencehealth.bc.ca))
- Provincial Health Services Authority, Academic Development, Christie.Diamond@phsa.ca;(Chair);
 - ([Sarah Titcomb at stitcomb@phsa.ca](mailto:Sarah.Titcomb@phsa.ca))
- Vancouver Coastal Health, Clinical Education Lead, Lisa Bower; Lisa.Bower@vch.ca

Q: Where can I find the summary notes from each meeting?

A: They are emailed to the list of attendees. If you have not received the previous notes from May 28 or June 11, please email Christie.Diamond@phsa.ca.

Q: When will the next meeting be?

A: Today was the last of a 3-meeting series. There is a short questionnaire to seek your feedback on these sessions that will determine if continued meetings are valuable; a preferred cadence of meetings; and any future format or topic requests.