Appendix 12.7.1 Policy on Immunization and Tuberculosis Testing

Whole Health School of Medicine

Policy on Immunization and Tuberculosis Testing

I. POLICY

Immunizations
All students are required to have the immunizations that are specified in the Procedure on Immunization and Tuberculosis Testing or a positive titer, prior to matriculation.

Tuberculosis Testing
All students are required to undergo testing for tuberculosis prior to matriculation and annually, as described in the Procedure on Immunization and Tuberculosis Testing.

Students are required to update their student immunization record annually.

Exemptions
Students may be exempted from vaccination requirements in the following cases:
1. If they object on the grounds that administration of immunizing agents conflicts with their religious practices (unless the Department of Health has declared an emergency or an epidemic of disease).

2. If they present a statement from a licensed physician which states that their physical condition is such that administration of one or more of the required immunizing agents would be detrimental to their health. If an exemption is approved, the WHSOM cannot guarantee that our affiliated hospitals and clinics will allow the student to participate in patient care at these affiliated sites.

II. PURPOSE

Health care professionals, including medical students-in-training, are at higher risk than the general population for acquiring communicable diseases. In order to protect themselves, their colleagues and patients, students must provide evidence of immunization or immunity against these diseases.
III. SCOPE
This policy applies to:
• Medical students

IV. POLICY AUTHOR(S)
• Office of Student Affairs

V. RELATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
• Procedure on Immunization and Tuberculosis Testing

VI. REFERENCES
LCME Element 12.7: Immunization Requirements and Monitoring. A medical school follows accepted guidelines in determining immunization requirements for its medical students and monitors students’ compliance with those requirements.

VII. APPROVALS
Dean, School of Medicine
Procedure on Immunization and Tuberculosis Testing

At Matriculation
Students must provide the required evidence of immunization or immunity upon admission to medical school. Any student deficient in immunity will be required to initiate the vaccine series prior to the start date of the first year and must complete the vaccine series within 18 months of initiating the vaccine series.

While Enrolled
Students must meet the annual influenza and TB test requirements detailed above or provide documentation supporting exemption.

Monitoring
The Student Health Service will monitor adherence to the immunization and TB testing requirements. Students are not able to begin or continue clinical activities until they have achieved satisfactory completion of the initial or annual immunization and TB testing requirements. This includes shadowing and standardized patient activities.

Access to Immunization Records
All immunization information/documentation provided by the student will become part of the student’s permanent medical record at Student Health Service. These records are available to the student via the online Student Health Service portal. Students are encouraged to update their record at Student Health Service with any changes.

Additional Recommendations
It is recommended that each entering student have a medical history and physical examination by a physician.

Required Immunizations
All students are required to have the following immunizations or a positive titer, prior to matriculation.
- MMR 2 doses OR Separately Mumps 2 doses; Rubella 1 dose; Measles 2 doses
- Varicella 2 doses (having a history of the disease is not sufficient)
- DPT (childhood) 3 doses
- Tdap (adult) 1 dose dated within 10 years of expected graduation date
- Hepatitis B 3 doses and a positive Hepatitis B surface antibody titer
- COVID-19 2 doses

After matriculation:
Influenza, on a yearly basis

**Tuberculosis Testing**
PPD dated after May 1 of the year of matriculation, and repeated annually.

If a student has a Positive TB Test Result, the student must provide documentation indicating date of positive test results and a clear chest x-ray dated within three months of their matriculation date. The student should not be re-tested for TB or provide a new chest x-ray, unless a new exposure occurs or the student becomes symptomatic.

**Evidence of Immunity or Immunization**
The student must provide one of the following:
1. Copies of medical records from their health care providers that indicate the completion of the requirements listed above.
2. Copies of the lab reports indicating a positive titer.
3. A completed immunization form. This form is provided to students as part of the matriculation packet. This form must be completed and signed by the student’s health care provider.

**Reference:**
AAMC Standardized Immunization Form  [https://www.aamc.org/media/23441/download](https://www.aamc.org/media/23441/download)