

NEW YORK CITY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY The City University of New York Dental Hygiene Clinic 285 Jay Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201 718 260-5074

Bloodborne Pathogen Policy

The Dental Hygiene Department of New York City College of Technology is dedicated to addressing the concerns and issues related to Bloodborne pathogens. These pathogens include but are not limited to Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), and Hepatitis C Virus (HCV). This commitment focuses on the needs of the individual as well as the community at large. The purpose of this policy is to minimize the risk of transmission from an infected healthcare worker or student to a patient. New York State regulations mandate that the licensed healthcare facility is responsible for ensuring that health care providers and students do not have physical conditions resulting from infection with a bloodborne pathogen which could potentially interfere with clinical care or create a health risk for patients. The Dental Hygiene Department realizes that this knowledge is being updated and continues to change. The policy will be reviewed annually to maintain currency and changes will be made as appropriate.

<u>Infection Control Procedures</u>: All health care providers, staff, and students are required to follow "Standard Precautions". This is the practice and procedures set forth in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and reviewed here.

<u>HBV Immunization</u>: Department policy states that all Faculty, staff and students are to be immunized for HBV. All CityTech Dental Hygiene faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to be immunized for HBV. Those faculty, staff or students who decline to be vaccinated are required to sign a declination form.

<u>HIV Testing:</u> Testing of faculty, staff and students for HIV is not required. It is recommended that all healthcare providers are tested voluntarily to know their HIV status.

<u>Obligation to Report:</u> A healthcare worker or student infected with HIV, HBV or HCV or other bloodborne pathogen is not required to inform patients.

<u>Confidentiality:</u> All information concerning the health status of a health care worker or student infected by a bloodborne pathogen shall be disclosed only in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including <u>Article 27-</u> f of the New York State Public Health Law and its regulations concerning HIV and AIDS-related Information.

<u>Enforcement of Practice Limitations or Modifications</u>: Any CityTech Dental Hygiene faculty, staff, or student who engages in unsafe and/or careless clinical practices, which create risks to the health of patients, employees, or students, may be subject to disciplinary action.

Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens: Faculty, staff or students who are exposed to a bloodborne pathogen in the course of their work The New York City College of Technology Department of Dental Hygiene are expected to follow the procedures set forth in the Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Program. Patients who have been exposed to Bloodborne pathogens while being treated at the clinic shall be referred for counseling and testing. Results from such testing shall be disclosed only in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.

Please follow the link for more information.

<u>Bloodborne Pathogen and Infection Control Training</u>: CityTech Dental Hygiene program complies with all local, state, and federal Infection control policies. Written policies and instruction on infection protocols is provided in courses throughout the curriculum. Compliance with safety practices is also evaluated throughout the student's clinical experience to ensure a safe educational and work environment.