

WELLSPAN HEALTH RADIOGRAPHY PROGRAM

POLICY #11

PREGNANCY POLICY

I. Purpose

- To ensure that the radiation exposure to the embryo/fetus of the declared pregnant woman who works with radioactive materials or radiation-producing equipment remains well below the regulatory limit established by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the State of Pennsylvania and the guidance of the National Council of Radiation Protection (NCRP), the following policy is established.

II. Procedure

- If a student becomes pregnant while attending the program, it is the student's option to inform the faculty of her pregnancy. Students who do not report their pregnancy in writing will be considered and treated as non-pregnant, regardless of physical appearance. If the student elects to inform the faculty, she must do so in writing to the Program Director and the facility Radiation Safety Officer. A conference will be held with the faculty members, a qualified medical physicist and the student to discuss student risks and choices. In addition, it is recommended that the student discuss this situation with her physician and seek his/her written advice. The pregnant student will not be placed at an academic or clinical disadvantage due to pregnancy. A pregnant student can choose one of the following options:

Option A: Continue in the radiography program without any restrictions. No substitute rotations will be provided. A fetal radiation monitor will be ordered immediately for the student to use throughout the duration of her pregnancy. This "baby" badge will be worn at the abdominal level and under any protective apparel for the duration of the pregnancy.

Option B: Continue in the didactic aspect but withdraw from the clinical aspect (must have a Doctor's excuse). The student will re-enter at the time deemed appropriate for the program.

Option C: Withdraw from the program and re-enter at the time deemed appropriate for the program.

Option D: Formally withdraw declaration of pregnancy at any time

In any Withdrawal or Leave of Absence situation, re-admission to the radiography program is subject to faculty/or program vacancy.

The student can withdraw the declaration of pregnancy at any time.

Options A through D must be formal written declarations submitted by the student.

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NOTIFICATION OF PREGNANCY FORM

I submit this notification of pregnancy to the Program Director of the WellSpan Health Radiography Program and the facility Radiation Safety Officer.

I, _____ (student name), do/do not (circle one) choose to continue my enrollment in the radiography program. I fully understand the possible risks to myself and my unborn child, and I elect to:

_____ **Option A:** Continue in the program without restrictions and be supervised by the Clinical Instructor.

_____ **Option B:** Continue in the didactic aspect but withdraw from clinical (must have a Doctor's excuse) and re-enter at a time deemed appropriate for the program.

_____ **Option C:** Withdraw from the program and re-enter at a time deemed appropriate for the program.

_____ **Option D:** Formally withdraw declaration of pregnancy at any time

Comments:

Student: _____

Date: _____

Program Director: _____

Date: _____

Radiation Safety Officer: _____

Date: _____