



# GUIDELINE

<b>SUBJECT/TITLE:</b> Point of Care Blood Glucose Testing for Undergraduate Nursing Instructors (Calgary Campus and Medicine Hat College Site)		<b>PAGE:</b>  1 of 2
<b>RELATED POLICY:</b>	<b>DATE ESTABLISHED:</b> September 25, 2013	
<b>AUTHORIZATION:</b> Practice Policy and Procedure Committee Undergraduate Programs Committee Nursing Council	<b>DATE LAST REVIEWED:</b> May 3, 2019 November 8, 2021 (editorial changes) March 4, 2022	<b>LAST REVISED:</b> June 7, 2023

**PURPOSE:**

To establish a protocol for preparing Nursing Instructors to deliver training and achieve capability to supervise undergraduate nursing students in the procedure of blood glucose testing in practice areas.

**APPLICABILITY:**

This policy applies to all Nursing Instructors in N489 and N589 of the undergraduate nursing program (Medicine Hat College Site).

**DEFINITIONS:**

*Point of Care Testing:*

“Point of Care Testing (POCT)” refers to those analytical patient-testing activities provided outside the physical facilities of the clinical laboratory. POCT may not require permanent dedicated space. POCT is typically performed by clinical personnel whose primary training is not in the clinical laboratory sciences: (Alberta Health Services, 2013).

*Student Placement Officer at MHC:*

“Student Placement Officer” refers to the Faculty of Nursing representative identified to request and receive barcodes from Alberta Health Services Point of Care Testing (POCT). The Student Placement Officer will use the spreadsheet provided by Alberta Health Services to request “Instructor designated” barcodes from POCT.

*Nursing Instructor:*

“Nursing Instructor (NI)” refers to any faculty member who teaches an undergraduate level on-campus or off-campus practice course within the Faculty of Nursing.

**PROCESS:**

1. NIs who are not certified in POCT will be required to be trained/recertified annually.
2. Each NPCC at MHC will administer the quiz and checklist supplied by Alberta Health Services to students in their term in collaboration with the on-campus instructors.
3. NIs will complete the checklist by acknowledging each point covered during presentation and the NI will sign off the checklist once completed.
4. The NPCC at MHC will administer the quiz supplied by Alberta Health Services to the NIs. In accordance with Alberta Health Services stipulation for their employees, the NIs will need to achieve 85% to be provided with an “Instructor designated” barcode and afforded capability to train and supervise students in nursing practice.
5. The Student Placement Officer at MHC requests a MHC glucometer code for the faculty. There is one code for all students and nursing instructors.

**Management/Retention**

1. Following successful completion of POCT, the NI will submit their completed tests and checklists to the NPCC.
2. The NPCC will check to ensure that all forms have been submitted and that they have been fully completed.
3. The NPCC must submit all tests and checklists to the administrative assistant for entry into a secure folder on MS Teams.

**POINTS OF EMPHASIS:**

1. Acknowledgement of the completed NI’s quiz and checklist is stored in a secure folder on MS Teams.
2. The NI will be responsible for the “Instructor designated” barcode. Students will only be allowed to perform blood glucose testing with this barcode at their instructor’s elbow.
3. Students will document the results from the blood glucose test and control tests they perform in the appropriate record.
4. NI’s co-signature is required on all students’ blood glucose test and controls test documentation. Digital signatures are acceptable.

**REFERENCES:**

Alberta Health Services Definition of Point of Care Testing. Retrieved from:  
<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/lab/Page3314.aspx>