



Medical College of Georgia

Academic, Research, and  
Student Affairs  
Policy Library

## HIV/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) Policy for Students

### Policy 6.14

Volume 6 Student Services  
Chapter 14 HIV/AIDS Policy (Students)  
Responsible Office: Student Services  
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### Policy Statement

Any student at the Medical College of Georgia with patient-care responsibilities who knows or has reason to believe that he/she has human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection is required to immediately report this information to the MCG Health Inc. hospital epidemiologist in accordance with hospital policy as well as report it to the student's Dean. Furthermore, any suspected HIV exposure by students during the course of their assigned duties should be reported immediately by the student to his/her clinical supervisor in accordance with the policies of the hospitals in which the student has assigned duties. The Medical College of Georgia will carefully conform to state and federal laws regarding discrimination toward students with HIV infection, and all information will be considered confidential.

### Reason For Policy

HIV/AIDS is an infectious disease, and while not highly contagious, can be transmitted through bodily fluids and thus is a risk factor in the healthcare environment. The Medical College of Georgia's student curricula will incorporate the basic principles of infection control and prevention. It is the responsibility of each student to be knowledgeable of such principles and strictly adhere to the universal precautions presented. Any student at the Medical College of Georgia who either has been and suspects he/she might have been exposed to the HIV/AIDS must report such information to appropriate individuals as described in this policy to prevent further spread of the infection or disease.

### Entities Affected By This Policy

All students, faculty, and administrators at the Medical College of Georgia are affected by this policy.

### Who Should Read This Policy

All students enrolled at the Medical College of Georgia, its Registrar, faculty, and their support staff must be aware of this policy.

### Contacts

Contact	Phone	e-mail/URL
MCGHI Hospital Epidemiologist	706-721-2224	<a href="http://www.hi.mcg.edu/hep/">http://www.hi.mcg.edu/hep/</a>
Dean, SAHS	706-721-2621	<a href="http://www.mcg.edu/sah/">http://www.mcg.edu/sah/</a>
Dean, SOM	706-721-2231	<a href="http://www.mcg.edu/som/">http://www.mcg.edu/som/</a>
Dean, SOD	706-721-2117	<a href="http://www.mcg.edu/sod/">http://www.mcg.edu/sod/</a>
Dean, SON	706-721-3771	<a href="http://www.mcg.edu/son/">http://www.mcg.edu/son/</a>
Student Health Services	706-721-3448	<a href="http://www.mcg.edu/shs/">http://www.mcg.edu/shs/</a>

### Website Address For This Policy

<http://www.mcg.edu/aaffairs/policies/pdfs/p614.pdf>

**Related Documents**

Medical College of Georgia Health, Inc. Policies:  
[http://hi.mcg.edu/aboutus/PDFPolicies/04\\_70\\_00.pdf](http://hi.mcg.edu/aboutus/PDFPolicies/04_70_00.pdf)  
[http://hi.mcg.edu/aboutus/PDFPolicies/04\\_70\\_01.pdf](http://hi.mcg.edu/aboutus/PDFPolicies/04_70_01.pdf)

**Definitions**

These definitions apply to these terms as they are used in this policy:

**AIDS** Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome  
**HIV** Human Immunodeficiency Virus  
**MCGHI** MCG Health, Inc.

**Overview**

This policy recognizes the diversity of the academic and clinical requirements of the various schools and departments at the Medical College of Georgia regarding HIV infection and AIDS. Generalized information is provided but specific information regarding particular programs may be secured from the appropriate school, department, or dean.

The student curricula will incorporate the basic principles of infection control and prevention. It is the responsibility of each student to be knowledgeable of such principles and strictly adhere to the universal precautions presented.

**Process/Procedures**

Any student with patient-care responsibilities who knows or has reason to believe that he/she has human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection is required to immediately report this information to the MCG Health, Inc. hospital epidemiologist in accordance with hospital policy as well as report it to the student’s Dean. Failure on the part of the student to report a known HIV infection may result in disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

Suspected HIV exposure by students of the Medical College of Georgia, or by students sponsored through a program of the Medical College of Georgia, during the course of their assigned duties should be reported immediately by the student to his/her clinical supervisor in accordance with the policies of the hospitals in which he has assigned duties. Students participating in clinical activities at MCG Health Inc. are subject to its policies on HIV infection (MCGHI Employee Health Policy 4.70.00 and 4.70.01, see Related Documents above).

The Medical College of Georgia will carefully conform to state and federal laws regarding discrimination toward students with HIV infection. All information pertaining to the condition and /or clinical assignment of a student with known or potential HIV infection or AIDS will be considered confidential information.

Additional information and counseling about AIDS and related issues (i.e., educational, financial, career implications) may be obtained from Student Health Services or MCGHI Department of Hospital Epidemiology.

**Responsibilities**

The responsibilities each party has in connection with Academic, Research, and Student Affairs Policy 6.14, HIV/AIDS Policy for Students, are:

Student with HIV infection or who believes he/she may be infected	Report information to to MCGHI Hospital Epidemiologist and his/her respective dean.
Student with suspected exposure to HIV during the course of assigned duties	Report exposure to clinical supervisor in accordance with hospital policies