

APPENDIX to guideline 6/2012: Instructions from Hospital District of Helsinki and Uusimaa (HUS) concerning infectious diseases and vaccinations of work placement students

The students' health care must be taken care of by their education provider. Students with symptoms of illness may not start their work placement before the cause of the symptoms has been determined. The education provider must check that all students are in possession of the necessary documents (see below) when coming to the work placement. The education provider must monitor compliance with these instructions.

The skin of the students' hands must be problem-free when coming for a work placement. Students may not have artificial nails. Tests for MRSA and other resistant bacteria will only be made upon separate request from the hospital's infectious diseases division.

Before the start of the work placement, the students must be familiar with universal precautions, and these must be applied in caring for every patient. Such precautions include, but are not limited to, proper hand hygiene, blood precautions, use of protective equipment and secretion stain disinfection. If a trainee has an accident involving bleeding, they must immediately discuss the care of patients with the chief medical officer or the medical officer on duty to evaluate the risk of infection of blood borne viruses (HIV, Hepatitis C and B).

Vaccinations

Students must present a valid vaccination certificate or written certification of having had the following diseases:

- Measles, mumps and rubella (MMR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) triple vaccine or individual disease-specific vaccines. o Students who have not been fully vaccinated must be given the MMR vaccine according to instructions from the National Institute for Health and Welfare.
- Chickenpox	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Varicella vaccine to be given to those who have not had the disease or the vaccine.

HUS also recommends having the following valid vaccines prior to the start of the work placement:

- Hepatitis B vaccine (3-vaccine series complete and S-HbsAb >10 mIU/ml, measured around 6 weeks after last vaccination).
- Tetanus and diphtheria vaccine.

For the time being, HUS is offering free seasonal flu vaccine to students whose work placements take place during flu season.

Tuberculosis and salmonella

	Students from Finland coming for work placements at HUS	International exchange students coming for work placements at HUS, and students who have worked at a hospital outside of Finland for 3 months or longer in the last year
Tuberculosis	Chest X-ray required of all students suffering from a lengthy (over 3 weeks) cough.	Chest X-ray with results stated in English required of all students coming from outside the Nordic region for a work placement in the neonatal ward. Chest X-ray also required of all students suffering from a lengthy (over 3 weeks) cough. If there is no appended doctor's statement or it is too old, a new chest X-ray must be taken in Finland.
Salmonella	Salmonella test required of all students coming for a work placement in the neonatal ward who have spent more than 4 consecutive days outside of the Nordic region in the preceding 3 months. Negative salmonella test also required of students who have suffered or have had housemates or family members suffer symptoms of gastroenteritis (stomach flu) in the preceding month.	Negative salmonella stool test required of students coming from outside the Nordic region for a work placement in the neonatal ward.