POLICY: STUDENT NURSE DRESS CODE

PURPOSE:

Students are required to abide by professional appearance standards when they are in any contact situations with clients and families. This dress code fulfills the purpose of a generic description of those standards. Students on clinical assignments in specific acute care facilities may be required to meet different standards of that specific facility.

1) The nursing faculty will be responsible for the revisions of this policy.

2) The nursing faculty will be responsible for the enforcement of this policy.

3) Students out of compliance with this policy may be sent away from the clinical setting and receive an absent day for that clinical experience.

4) When a nursing uniform is expected, the requirements are:
   a. Uniform top is to be all white. Pants are to be dark navy blue.
   b. U.P.T. student patch is to be placed on the left arm sleeve, 3” below the shoulder seam.
   c. Pant or dress uniform styles are acceptable for females
   d. Plain white hosiery/socks are required and must cover ankles
   e. Plain, clean white shoes are required.
   f. Appropriate under garments must be worn and they must be undetectable through the professional attire.
   g. Uniforms must be clean, neat in appearance and smoke free.

5) All students must adhere to the dress code for each individual observation. This will be clarified by the instructor of the course.

6) Students must wear their student nurse identification badge at all times they are in any hospital, nursing home, physician office or clinic setting. If a photo identification badge is required, it must be worn above the waist and in a way that is easily readable to any approaching person.

7) Personal hygiene must be impeccable. Hair must be neat, clean and pulled back with small, simple hair accessories so that hair does not come in contact with the patient and/or does not require frequent handling, or obstruct one’s view. Hair color and style must be conservative and must conform to clinical agency’s policies. Health Care agencies do have policies that restrict extreme hairstyles, such as mohawk’s, bright non-natural hair colors and unusual shaven hairstyles/beards.

8) Male students must be neatly shaven. If a mustache and/or beard is worn, it must be short, clean and well groomed.
9) Jewelry permitted when in uniform includes the following:
   a. A wrist watch capable of timing seconds
   b. A wedding ring, engagement ring, and/or school ring
   c. Plain post earrings may be worn (only one in each ear)
   d. If a religious medal or other neck charm is worn it should not be visible on the uniform
      and it must not dangle or have the capability of coming in contact with the client while
      giving care.

10) Students are not permitted to wear fragrant products in patient care settings (cologne,
     perfume, aftershave, etc.)

11) Nails must be well groomed and kept to a length that is not detrimental to the patient’s safety
    or comfort. The use of artificial nails is not permitted. Nail polish, if worn, must be clear or
    light pink in color.

12) Tattoos should be covered at all times.

13) Students are not permitted to use real or simulated tobacco products while in uniform in
    public/visible areas of healthcare facilities or during outside rotations. The odor of smoke
    must not be detectable.

These guidelines have been written in consideration of the clients perspective and agency
guidelines. Health Care agencies do have policies that restrict extreme hairstyles, such as
mohawk’s, bright non-natural hair colors and unusual shaven hairstyles/beards. Health care
agencies have the right to dictate student dress code policies to universities as we are guests in
their facilities and they have the right to refuse students that do not meet the agency guidelines.
Clients have the right to refuse the presence of any particular care giver. Personal experiences of
artistic grooming (tattoos, unusual hair color, extreme unusual hairstyle, body jewelry, etc.)
could result in loss of clinical experiences and unsatisfactory completion of clinical
requirements.