

Tests and Samples Required from Incoming International Nursing Students

The following tests and samples must be taken either in students' home country before departure to Finland or in a private medical practice in Finland prior to practical training (students pay the expenses).

1. Chest x-ray

Chest x-ray is required from students who come from tuberculosis high burden countries and who have had unexplained cough for the past three weeks. A list of tuberculosis high burden countries is provided by the WHO at http://www.who.int/tb/publications/global_report/gtbr15_annex02.pdf?ua=1.

Students who come from non-Nordic countries and will work with newborns must provide a chest x-ray taken less than three months before departure to Finland and a certificate of the chest x-ray in English. If the student does not have the certificate, a chest x-ray must be taken in Finland before the student is able to start practical training.

2. Salmonella test

Students who come from outside Europe and will complete a placement in the delivery room, maternity ward 4, children's ward 1 or NICU need to provide a certificate of a salmonella test taken less than one month before departure to Finland.

If the student has any stomach problems, she/ he needs to have a stool sample taken in order to identify bacteria causing the problems.

3. MRSA

MRSA swaps are no longer required and students do not need to have a MRSA certificate, unless they have tested positive to MRSA earlier.

If a student has tested positive to MRSA, the hygiene nurse at Kainuu Central Hospital will check the condition of the hands and skin of the student and give further instructions. We will also contact the wards where the student is going to practice because some wards do not take MRSA-positive students.

VACCINATIONS

Students must provide a certificate (i.e. vaccination card or record) of the following vaccinations:

- DPT (diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus) (booster every ten years)
- polio
- MPR (morbilli, parotis and rubella) (two doses)
- hepatitis B vaccination (three doses) (recommended)
- seasonal influenza vaccination
- vaccination or acquired immunity against varicella

NB! No jewelry is allowed on the facial area during practical training.