Internal Operating Procedure for Student Matters that may Impact on Clinical Placement

1. Communication of student matters between the School of Nursing and Midwifery (SoNM) and the partner Health Service Providers (HSPs) must seek to achieve a balance between:
   - Providing adequate information to ensure an effective and safe clinical placement and
   - The maintenance of confidentiality regarding student-specific matters.

2. The Practice Placement Agreement (PPA) is signed by each student completing clinical placement. Point 12 states:
   “I understand, if I have (or if I develop) an impairment or condition, it is my responsibility to seek advice regarding the possibility that it may impact on my ability to learn, to perform safely in the clinical environment, or affect my personal welfare or the welfare of others. An appropriate person to seek advice from in the clinical setting may be an Allocations Liaison Officer, Clinical Placement Coordinator, Staff Nurse or Staff Midwife. I understand it is also my responsibility to declare the impairment or condition on the relevant health disclosure form [link].
   I accept that only through disclosure of this impairment/condition can an appropriate plan of support to reach required clinical learning outcomes/competencies be explored.”

3. In the event that a student discloses an issue to a UCC staff member that may have implications for their practice on their next clinical placement, the following is the recommended process:

   **UCC STAFF MEMBER ASKS THE STUDENT THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:**

   1. “DO YOU THINK THIS MATTER IS LIKELY TO IMPACT ON YOUR NEXT CLINICAL PLACEMENT?”

   - **YES**
     - Disclose matter to relevant ALO (HSP), NPDC (HSP), Allocations Officer (UCC), Programme Leader (UCC).
   - **NO**
     - Does staff member agree?

   2. “DO YOU AGREE TO ME COMMUNICATING THIS MATTER TO A SELECT GROUP WHO NEED TO KNOW?”

   - **YES**
     - Refer matter to Director of Undergraduate Education
     - Student is referred to the appropriate support service or directed on appropriate action to be taken by the Director of Undergraduate Education
   - **NO**
     - MATTER ENDS HERE. Student is informed that the matter will not be disclosed to HSP staff.