Introduction to General Practice Nursing  
Module Code NUR3304

Credits / Level of Study  
30 credits / Level 6

This unique, funded training course equips those new to practice nursing with the core knowledge and skills needed in today’s busy general practice environment. It has been developed as the first stage of a three-stage pathway that links entry level with CPD through to advanced practice.

The course is available at four universities across Kent, Surrey and Sussex. Work-based learning is central to this initiative, supported by nurse mentors and primary care workforce tutors. Theoretical learning includes core competencies, complemented by personalised study days to meet the specific requirements of the learner’s role within their practice.

Module Overview

The Introduction to General Practice Nursing Module has been designed through a collaborative curriculum group consisting of representatives from practice and the Universities of Surrey, Brighton, Canterbury Christ Church and Greenwich.

The module consists of six campus based study days, with accompanying learning sets, complimented by an additional four protected, personalised study days to meet the specific requirements of the learners role within their practice, over a period of one year.

Each study day will comprise of a core lecture, skills and facilitated Action Learning with learners asked to share examples and issues from practice.

This one-year course offers 30 FHEQ credits at level 6, the course content will comprise of theory and practice elements through work-based learning. During this time, students will be supported throughout the course by an experienced practice nurse mentor, a primary care workforce tutor or nurse development lead who is employed by the learner’s clinical commissioning group and the module co-ordinator.

Taught sessions will focus on the contemporary nature of General Practice Nursing and will be a mix of clinical and theoretical topics that draw from the competencies as outlined within two documents:

- A competency framework for Practice Nursing (Kent, Surrey and Sussex SHA 2009)
- General Practice Nurse Competencies (RCGP 2012)

The practice portfolio will be cumulative in nature with formative and summative work. Formative reviews will be conducted throughout the module by the designated named mentor and the module leader which will capture the level of development, depth of learning and application to practice.

The portfolio will be submitted for summative assessment following a final summative meeting between the learner and mentor to confirm that all competencies have been achieved at level 5.

NB: Learners will commence the module as they take up post in practice. This will enable learners to be supported in their new role when the need is greatest.

Module Aims

This module aims to equip practitioners new to General Practice Nursing with appropriate clinical skills, knowledge and attitudes required for competent, fit for purpose and contemporary practice. The work-based learning approach allows the learner to manage and actively shape their own learning in the work place. This module aims to develop professionalism in negotiation and inter-professional collaborative working through problem solving and critical reflection.

Learning Outcomes

FHEQ Level 6 Learning Outcomes:
On successful completion of this module learners should be able to:

- Demonstrate a conceptual understanding of nursing in primary care and a deep appreciation of political/social policy drivers; legal and professional accountability relating to the Scope of Professional Practice (NMC 2008) and areas of delegated responsibility.
- Critically analyse and review the nature of practice nursing and develop essential skills against nationally and/or locally agreed core competencies to deliver a quality service.
- Critically appraise and effectively apply the values and behaviours associated with current Department of Health strategies and the NHS Constitution adopting an evidence based multi-professional approach to care.
- Achieve competence through engagement, team working, reflective learning and the successful completion of the Practice Portfolio.

Pre-requisites of Study

All applicants must have a professional qualification and be registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Council. Additionally, each learner will have the following:

- Employer support - all learners need to be based in a practice area that will enable them to meet the practice learning outcomes and competencies stated for the specific stage being undertaken
- All learners must have an identified mentor and/or Practice Teacher (dependant of the educational provision chosen) who has successfully completed an NMC approved programme of preparation to enable them to support learning and assessment in practice (NMC 2008)
- Access to a computer and the internet
- Satisfactory clearance in areas identified by the CCG/Practice
- Satisfactory occupational health assessment if deemed necessary
- As a registrant with the NMC it is envisaged that the learner will have an IELTS score of 7.0 in all categories or equivalent for non-native-English speaking applicants.

Module Content

This module will explore the evidence base that underpins nursing in the primary care setting specifically practice nursing. The role and scope of the general practice nurse will be explored along with quality and risk management in relation to contemporary health policy.
Introduction to General Practice Nursing
Module Code NUR3304

Clinical management of common long term conditions (including pharmacological) will be explored and the skills necessary to manage patient's needs. Issues related to health promotion, education and protection will be investigated in the context of the public health role of community and general practice nurses.

Theoretical knowledge will be contextualised through work-based learning supported by an experienced practitioner (mentor), the CCG primary care workforce tutor or nurse development lead and the module leader. Additional learning opportunities will be identified through negotiation with the learner and mentor which will reflect the specific needs of the locality and service delivery. Where appropriate, potential placements/visits will be accessed (i.e. hospital based clinics, rehabilitation services) to ensure the continuity of care.

Throughout the module, a strong emphasis will be placed on the themes associated with Chief Nursing Officer's Strategy for Nurses, Midwives and Care Staff (Compassion in Practice DH 2012) notably the 6 Cs and the NHS Constitution (2013) values and behaviours, which will be weaved through each stage/component of the module.

Values and Behaviours

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Care | Working together for Patients
Compassion | Respect and Dignity
Competence | Commitment to Quality of Care
Communication | Compassion
Courage | Improving Lives
Commitment | Everyone Counts

The following Core and Negotiated Competencies will form the basis of the content

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>CORE COMPETENCIES</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Legal, Ethical and Professional</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Health and Safety</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Practice Development</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Quality</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Equality and Diversity</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Practice Management</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Screening and Health Promotion</td>
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<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>NEGOTIATED COMPETENCIES</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Immunisation</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Travel Health</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Sexual Health</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Family Planning</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Women’s and Men’s Health</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Supporting people living with LTC</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Asthma</td>
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<td>COPD</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Cardiac Disease</td>
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<td>Diabetes</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Mental Health and Psychological Health Promotion</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Wound Management</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Triage and Minor Illness / Ear Care</td>
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**Delivery of Module**
Approaches to learning and teaching will be based on an eclectic range of methods, such as reflective learning, creative and innovative learning, assessment strategies, seminar presentations, workshops, lectures, group discussions and action learning sets. The core of each strategy will focus on the diversity of the service provision within their practice, the service users and carers, with all areas highlighted in Table No. 5 above as central themes.

**Assessment**

**Part One:** Assessment of Practice Portfolio
The practice portfolio will include essential skills, core and negotiated competencies and two reflective accounts (500 words each) based on the learners practice experience. 

**Pass / Fail**

**Part Two:** The learner will be required to complete a case study that evaluates the assessment and delivery of evidenced based care in practice. Learners will be required to present their case study on the final study day of the module for formative peer discussion and review. 

**100%**

**NB:** The learner must PASS both Parts of the assessment 100% weighting.

**Key Information**

**Study Dates**
November 2017: 8
December 2017: 13
February 2018: 7
April 2018: 11
June 2018: 6
July 2018: 18

*Please check our website to ensure that there have been no revisions to the course dates listed*

**Module Leader**
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**How to Apply**
To apply please contact the Module Leader. Application forms can be printed from our website