

## Enhancing Neonatal Nursing Practice

### Level 7 – 30 credits

---

#### Who is it for?

This course is designed to offer experienced neonatal nurse practitioners who are qualified in specialty the opportunity to enhance their practice. The theoretical component is designed to cover a systems based approach in order to prepare practitioners to work at an enhanced level within clinical teams. The philosophy of the course is to enable neonatal practitioners to remain as nurses and provide a clinical leadership role within this specialty.

This course unit may be taken as a stand-alone course unit or subject to approval, as part of a new postgraduate Masters degree programme to commence September 2015 (subject to any pre or co-requisite units). For further information and entry requirements see: <http://www.nursing.manchester.ac.uk/postgraduate/cpd/modules/>

#### Course Unit Aims:

- To build upon knowledge and competencies gained during the Intensive Care of the new-born unit and subsequent practice in order to develop increased levels of skills and knowledge to support the infant during the resuscitation process, pre-transport stabilisation period and enhance holistic neonatal nursing practice throughout the infant's hospitalisation.
- To develop higher levels of clinical decision making while recognising current parameters of practice and accountability. The nurse will be able to monitor and improve standards of care through supervision of practice and clinical audit, providing skilled professional leadership and the development of holistic practice through research.

#### What will I learn?

The unit is designed to enable students to advance their knowledge and understanding in relation to caring for babies on the neonatal unit and their families and to critically consider the impact of contemporary health care systems on neonatal care.

#### How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed by an exam and an extended 3500 word plan/outline of a paper prepared for a professional peer reviewed journal e.g. Journal of Neonatal Nursing or another professional peer reviewed journal. The two-hour unseen examination in Week 20 will consist of practice-based scenarios selected by the course unit leader. **Both parts must be passed to gain a successful qualification.**

#### Teaching and Learning Methods

Learning and teaching processes include:

- Discussions
- Taught sessions
- Guest/specialist speakers
- Group work
- Practice learning
- Skills teaching, using simulation and teaching models

## Learning Outcomes

Successful students will be able to:

### Knowledge and understanding

1. Apply a systematic understanding of new knowledge and gain a critical awareness of existing neonatal nursing practice to justifying future research.
2. Develop a comprehensive understanding of the need to share knowledge, skills and expertise contributing to the development of research based neonatal care.

### Intellectual skills

1. Evaluate critically current best evidence and be at the forefront in the development and dissemination of research relative to care of the neonate and family.
2. Act as an advocate for the infant and his/her family, supporting and empowering the parents to contribute to decisions about care options for their child in complex situations.

### Practical skills

1. Demonstrate the ability to critically evaluate neonatal management holistically while focusing accurately on complex issues.
2. Anticipate and address problems using creative management strategies.
3. Promote, integrate and critically evaluate strategies which meet the needs of the infant and family in the immediate post-resuscitation period.
4. Evaluate critically the potential sequelae arising from the care and management received by the infant in the post delivery stabilisation period.
5. Systematically analyse the organisation of care provided to the infant in the post resuscitation / pre transport stabilisation period.

### Transferable skills

1. Develop self direction and originality whilst critically appraising personal practice and maintaining high standards of personal performance.
2. Critically explore the ethical and legal dilemmas and be able to discuss and defend management strategies.
3. Integrate into the neonatal team and be instrumental in facilitating critical evaluations of standards and quality of management using initiative and personal responsibility.
4. Be instrumental in clinical decision making in complex situations.

### Attendance

Part time, 10 study days undertaken over a period of 14 weeks. Study dates are available online at <http://www.nursing.manchester.ac.uk/postgraduate/cpd/units/studydatesbyunit.pdf>

**Please note attendance for summative assessment (two hour unseen written examination) is compulsory. This will be undertaken on the last study day of the course.**

### Dates of next intake

April 2015

NB. Course unit availability will be subject to minimum numbers.

### Funding

Funding for the programme or individual course units may be available through the CPD Service Level Agreement (SLA) for staff working in the NHS in Greater Manchester (and in the case of some course units the wider North West). To access SLA funding each course unit must be approved by an authorised SLA signatory on an individual basis. For more information applicants should contact the Education and Training lead within their organisation, Practice educator, or equivalent.

If not eligible for CPD SLA funding candidates may also apply with employer support or self-funding. The home fee for 2014-2015 will be £2010 for Level 7.

### **How do I apply?**

Applications must be received by the University by 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2015 for the April 2015 intake.

**If you are being funded by Service Level Agreement**, please contact your Trust and then apply online at [www.cpd-applynw.nhs.uk](http://www.cpd-applynw.nhs.uk)

- **Pre-requisites**

- Must be a qualified nurse or midwife registered with the NMC
- Must be employed and working more than 18.5 hours per week on a neonatal unit
- Must have successfully completed the Neonatal qualification in speciality
- Must have gained a further one years experience in neonatal practice following qualification in speciality
- Must have successfully studied at Level 5
- In addition to a recognised health professional qualification\*, all applicants require one of the following:
  - A relevant honours first degree (2:2 or above, or equivalent) from an approved higher education institution
  - Evidence of previous advanced study, research or professional experience which the University accepts as qualifying the applicant for entry

\*Health Professional in the context of this programme refers to registered Nurses, Midwives or Allied Healthcare Professionals (AHPs) in direct clinical contact with patients and registered as such with the UK NMC, HPC or their equivalent in other countries

- **HEI Additional Information/Personal statement**

- Should include details of your current post and your role and previous study at level 5 and 6
- Outline the reasons why you wish to undertake this course unit.

**If you are not being funded by SLA**, please see application information at <http://www.nursing.manchester.ac.uk/postgraduate/cpd/coursedetails/> Above pre-requisites also apply. For other information, please telephone the Admissions Office on 0161 306 7604 or email [conted.nursing@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:conted.nursing@manchester.ac.uk)