



Principles and Practice of Breast Care Level 7 – 30 credits

Delivered in partnership with The Christie School of Oncology.

Who is it for?

This multi-professional course unit is for qualified health care professionals who care for patients with breast cancer. 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:

The unit aims to:

- Develop the skills of reflection, critical analysis and enquiry relating to current issues in the context and treatment of breast cancer.
- Develop competence in interpersonal skills relevant to detecting the psychological sequelae of breast disease and enabling students to provide support to patients and their families.

How is the course assessed?

The assignment will comprise two parts:

1. The student will undertake a 15-minute digital recording of an interview with a simulated patient and will transcribe the interview. During the interview the student will be expected to identify and explore key patient concerns related to a breast care diagnosis, cancer treatment and its consequences. .
2. A 3,500-word essay, based on the interview with the simulated patient. The student will be expected to: critically analyse and evaluate their interpersonal skills, consider the key patient concerns identified in the interview, the evidence base relating to these and the challenges presented for care within the context of their own role and area of practice.

The essay, transcript of the recording and the DVD will be included as a compulsory part of the assignment and **will be undertaken during the course.**

Teaching and Learning methods:

Learning and teaching processes include lectures, discussions, small group work, role play, use of on-line materials and discussion; individual tutorials. Specific on-line activities will require students to critically consider the strengths and limitations of alternative methods/models of assessing patient concerns and participate in an on line discussion to evaluate their utility and relevance in the context of breast care practice.

Learning Outcomes

Successful students will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

- Critically evaluate how and why a diagnosis of breast cancer may cause significant challenges for patients and their families.

- Demonstrate an in-depth and critical understanding of the common problems associated with breast cancer and the complexities of its treatment.
- Critically appraise a range of evidence based strategies and interventions to provide high quality care and explore the evidence relating to their management.
- Critically appraise different models of care delivery that can be used to support patients with cancer and their family.

Intellectual Skills

- Critically analyse and reflect upon the psychosocial consequences that can arise following a breast cancer diagnosis.
- Critically examine the ethical, legal, political and professional issues relating to the management of patients with breast disease.
- Critically appraise the concepts of rehabilitation, support and palliation and consider their relevance in the context of breast disease and advanced breast care practice.
- Critically analyse different models for assessing patient concerns and evaluate their utility within the context of a breast care setting.

Practical Skills

- Critically reflect upon their own level of interpersonal skills competence and identify key areas for further personal development.
- Develop interpersonal skills to enable the assessment identification and exploration of key patient concerns in the context of a breast cancer diagnosis.
- Critically consider the value and purpose of the therapeutic relationship and evaluate strategies for the development of therapeutic patient relationships in the context of their professional role.
- Reflect on their professional role and sphere of influence to identify and critically evaluate appropriate strategies to promote developments in breast cancer care.

Transferable Skills

- Critically reflect on their own academic and clinical performance and utilise a range of strategies to improve these and overcome any particular difficulties
- Further develop and enhance skills in effective communication to a range of audiences in a variety of settings
- Demonstrate skills in working collegiately and effectively with others as a member of a team
- Effectively utilise a range of information sources including information technology / health informatics
- Utilise skills in systematic and creative approaches to problem-solving and decision-making in relation to complex issues

Attendance

Part time, normally two days every two weeks over a 14 week period. **Please note attendance for summative assessment is compulsory and will be undertaken during the study dates.** Study dates are available online at

<http://www.nursing.manchester.ac.uk/postgraduate/cpd/units/studydatesbyunit.pdf>

Dates of next intake: January 2016

NB. Course unit availability will be subject to minimum numbers

How do I apply?

Applications must be received by the University by 17 July 2015 for the September 2015 intake.

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 2015-2016 will be £2010 for Level 7.

If you are being funded by Service Level Agreement, please contact your Trust and then apply online at www.cpd-applynw.nhs.uk

- **Pre-requisites**

- Must work in a breast care setting with access to patients with a breast cancer diagnosis
- Must work at least 18 hours per week
- Must have at least six months experience in a related field
- Must be registered with the NMC – if NMC registration is not appropriate, applicants must have achieved GCSE English at grade C or above or equivalent.
- In addition to a recognised health professional qualification*, all applicants require one of the following **(you will be contacted to provide evidence)**
 - A relevant honours first degree (2:2 or above, or equivalent) from an approved higher education institution

or

- 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.

- **Supporting information and personal statement**

- Supporting information should include details of your current post and your role and previous study
- Personal Statement - In support of your application to study the module requested; please 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 0270 or email graduate.nursing@manchester.ac.uk