

MODULE SPECIFICATION FORM

Module Title: Community Nurse Prescribing	Level: 6	Credit Value: 10
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Module code: NHS640 (if known)	Cost Centre: GANG	JACS3 code: B710
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Trimester(s) in which to be offered: 1	With effect from: September 2012
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Office use only: To be completed by AQSU:	Date approved: Sept 2012
	Date revised: December 2017 – addition of module to SCPHN programme 2
	Version no: 2

Existing/New: Existing	Title of module being replaced (if any): N/A
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Originating Academic Business Division: Psychology, Sport Science and Health	Module Leader: Eleri Mills
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Module duration (total hours)**: 100	Status: core/option (identify programme where appropriate): The Glyndwr University Certificates in Continuing Education (Community Nurse Prescribing (V100)).
Scheduled learning & teaching hours: 50	
Independent study hours:	
Practice based learning: 50	
	Option

Programme(s) in which to be offered: This module is aligned to the Independent/Supplementary Prescribing for nurses (V300) and pharmacists and Community Nurse Prescribing for Nurses without a Specialist Practitioner Qualification (V150) module and shares their external examiner. It will be submitted	Pre-requisites per programme (between levels): None
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to the Health Sciences Post Registration assessment boards.

BSc (Hons) Community Specialist Practice (District Nursing/Community Children's Nursing) Graduate Diploma in Community Specialist Practice (District Nursing/Community Children's Nursing)

BSc (Hons) Specialist Community Public Health Nursing (Health Visiting)

BSc (Hons) Specialist Community Public Health Nursing (School Nursing)

Graduate Diploma in Specialist Community Public Health Nursing (Health Visiting)

Graduate Diploma in Specialist Community Public Health Nursing (School Nursing)

Graduate Certificate in Community Health Studies (exit award only)

MSc Specialist Community Public Health Nursing

Postgraduate Diploma in Specialist Community Public Health Nursing (Health Visiting)

Postgraduate Diploma in Specialist Community Public Health Nursing (School Nursing)

Postgraduate Certificate in Community Health Studies (exit award only)

Module Aims:

This module aims to prepare community nurses to prescribe safely, appropriately and cost effective from the Nurse Prescribers' Formulary for Community Practitioners

Intended Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this module, students should be able to:

1. Assess, consult and undertake a thorough history, including medication history and current medication (including over-the-counter, alternative and complementary health therapies) to inform diagnosis.
2. Understand and apply the relevant legislation to the practice of nurse/midwife prescribing, including ethical and any influences that can affect prescribing practice.
3. Demonstrate a competent level of knowledge of pharmacology, pharmacodynamics and pharmacotherapeutics.
4. Prescribe safely, appropriately and cost effectively including appreciation of the role of others in prescribing, supplying and administration of medicines.
5. Practice within a framework of professional accountability and responsibility including use of sources of information and decision support systems for prescribing.

UKCC (2001) Standards for Common Core:-
12.14

UKCC (2001) Standards for Specialist Practice appertaining to this module:-
13.7

Transferable/Key Skills and other attributes:

- Exercise initiative and personal responsibility
- Make decisions in complex situations
- Demonstrate excellent verbal and written communication skills;
- Exercise initiative and personal responsibility, demonstrating the independent learning ability;
- Demonstrate competency in word processing and the presentation of data;
- Demonstrate competency in the use of libraries, databases and the internet as sources of information;
- Assess and manage risk

Assessment:

Assessment of this module is made up of 2 elements, an unseen examination and writing of a prescription demonstrating safe prescribing;

Element 1

The **Unseen Examination:** comprises 2 sections:

Assessment 1 Multiple Choice / Short answer Paper. This will consist of a total of twenty, short answer and multiple choice questions to test pharmacological knowledge and its application to practice. Candidates must attempt to answer all questions. Students are advised to allow 1 hour to complete this section. Required pass mark is 80%.

Assessment 2 Drug Calculations. Candidates choose two out of four calculations cited. Students are advised to allow 15 minutes to complete this section. Required pass mark 100%

All component parts must be passed.

If a practitioner fails to correctly answer any questions that may result in direct harm to a patient/client the student will be 'referred' on that part of the assessment task.

Element 2

Assessment 3 - Evidence of safe prescribing practice.

Students must demonstrate in practice that they are meeting the Learning Outcomes in their field of Specialist Community Public Health Nursing / Community Specialist Practice. They must provide evidence that they have demonstrated competence in assessing, diagnosing and prescribing safely in practice for a client including writing a prescription. This will be done by completing the NMC (2004) Standard of Proficiency 1.5 for Specialist Community Public Health Nurses students and UKCC 2001 Standard 13.7 for Community Specialist Practice students document. This competence will be signed off by a practising nurse prescriber. This

assessment must be presented to the Module Leader. This evidence for prescribing will be reviewed by the external examiner for V100 prior to the examination board.

Pass mark is Pass/Refer%

Students must pass all elements i.e. Writing a prescription and examination in order to pass the module.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting	Duration (of exam)	Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
1	1,2,3,4,5	Written Examination in 2 parts: a) MCQ's (80% pass mark)	Pass/Refer	1.5 hours	
2	4	b) drug Calculation (100% pass mark)	Pass/Refer		
3	1,2,3,4,5	Evidence of safe prescribing practice	Pass/Refer		1,000 words

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

A variety of teaching methods will be used. These include class room based strategies such as lectures, discussions, seminars, workshops, tutorial sessions, action learning sets and problem-based / case-based learning supported by internet-based resources will be used. In clinical practice an experiential strategy, including observation, guided practice and observed independent practice, will be used to meet the module outcomes

Syllabus outline:

Consultation, decision-making and therapy, including referral –

- accurate assessment, history taking, communication and consultation with patients/clients and their parents/carers,
- development of a management plan,
- diagnosis,
- prescribe, not to prescribe,
- non-drug treatment or referral for treatment ,
- numeracy and drug calculations

Influences on, and psychology of, prescribing

- patient/client demand, and preference vs patient/client need - knowing when to say 'no'
- external influences, eg. companies or colleagues
- patient/client partnership in medicine-taking, including awareness of cultural and ethnic needs
- concordance as opposed to compliance

Prescribing in a team context

- rationale, adherence to, and deviation from national and local guidelines, local formularies, protocols, policies, decision support systems and formulae
- understanding the role and functions of other team members
- documentation, with particular reference to communication between team members, including electronic prescribing
- auditing, monitoring and evaluating prescribing practice
- interface between multiple prescribers and management of potential conflict
- budgets and cost effectiveness
- dispensing practice issues

Clinical pharmacology, including the effects of co-morbidity

- anatomy and physiology as applied to prescribing practice and community practitioner formulary
- basic principles of drugs to be prescribed - absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion, including adverse drug reactions (ADR)
- interactions and reactions
- patient/client compliance, concordance and drug response
- impact of physiological state on drug responses and safety, eg. in elderly people, neonates, children and young people, pregnant or breast feeding women

Evidence-based practice and clinical governance in relation to nurse prescribing

- rationale, adherence to and deviation from national and local guidelines, protocols, policies, decision support systems and formulae
- continuing professional development - role of self and role of the organisation
- management of change
- risk assessment and management, including safe storage, handling and disposal
- clinical supervision
- reflective practice/peer review
- critical appraisal skills
- auditing practice and scrutinising data, systems monitoring
- identify and report adverse drug reactions and near misses and learn from mistakes

Legal, policy and ethical aspects

- sound understanding of legislation that impacts on prescribing practice
- legal basis for practice, liability and indemnity
- legal implications of advice to self-medicate including the use of alternative therapies, complementary therapy and over the counter (OTC) medicines
- safe-keeping of prescription pads, action if lost, writing prescriptions and record keeping
- awareness and reporting of fraud (recommendations from the Shipman Inquiry, Fourth Report)

- drug licensing
- Yellow Card reporting to the Committee of Safety on Medicines (CSM) and reporting patient/client safety incidents to the National Patient Safety Agency (NPSA)
- prescribing in the policy context
- manufacturer's guidance relating to literature, licensing and off-label
- ethical basis of intervention
- informed consent, with particular reference to client groups in learning disability, mental health, children, critically ill people and emergency situations

Professional accountability and responsibility

- *The NMC code of professional conduct; standards for conduct, performance and ethics*
- *NMC Standards for prescribing practice*
- ethical recommendations from the Shipman Inquiry, Fourth Report
- accountability and responsibility for assessment, diagnosis and prescribing
- maintaining professional knowledge and competence in relation to prescribing
- accountability and responsibility to the employer

Prescribing in the public health context

- duty to patient/clients and society
- inappropriate use of medication, including misuse, under-use and over-use
- inappropriate prescribing, over-prescribing and under-prescribing
access to health care provisions and medicines

Bibliography:**Essential reading:**

(teams should note that essential reading would not normally exceed 3 or 4 texts/journals)

Beckwith, S. and Franklin, P. (2011) *Oxford Handbook of Prescribing for Nurses and Allied Health Professionals*, London. Oxford University Press.

British Medical Association, Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (Current edition) *Nurse prescribers' formulary for community practitioners*. London BMA/RPSGB

Brookes, D and Smith, A (eds) (2006) *Non-medical prescribing in health care practice – A toolkit for students and practitioners*. Houndsmill; Palgrave.

Nuttall, D and Rutt-Howard, J (2011) *The textbook of non-medical prescribing*. Chichester. Wiley-Blackwell

Other indicative reading:

Coben, D. Atere-Roberts, E (2005) *Calculations for nursing and healthcare*. Houndsmill. Palgrave

Dimond B (2011) *Legal aspects of medicines*. London. Quay Books

Downie, G. Mackenzie, J (2007) *Pharmacology and medicines management for nurses (4th Edition)*. Edinburgh. Churchill Livingstone

Humphreys J. Green, J. (2002) *Nurse prescribing* Houndsmills: Palgrave

McKinnon, J (2007) *Towards prescribing practice*. Chichester. John Wiley and Sons

National Prescribing Centre (2006) *A competency framework for shared decision making with patients – Achieving concordance for taking medicines*. Liverpool. National Prescribing Centre

Nursing and Midwifery Council (2006) *Standards of proficiency for nurse and midwife prescribers*. London: Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC).

Waite, M and Keenan, J (2010) *CPD for non-medical prescribers*. Chichester. Wiley-Blackwell