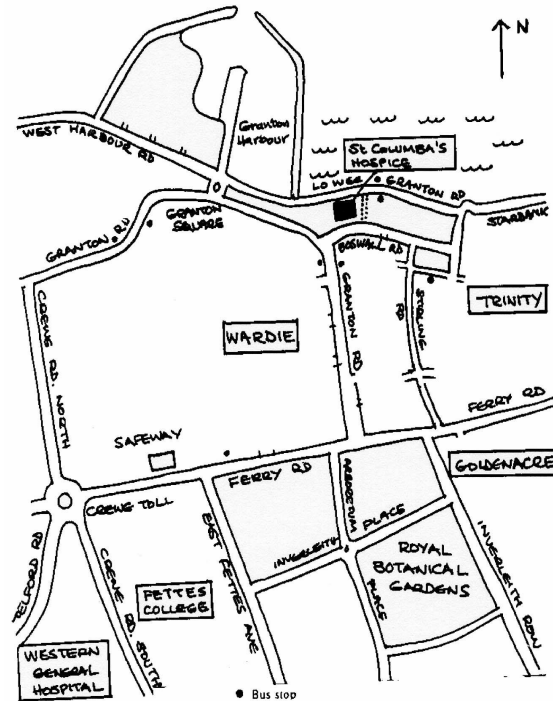


HOW TO GET TO ST COLUMBA'S HOSPICE



MSc in Palliative Care

Working with People with Complex Pain and Symptoms

Queen Margaret University and
St Columba's Hospice

BUS SERVICES

- 8, 14, 17 nearest stop Granton Road
- 16 nearest stop Lower Granton Road (approach Hospice by pedestrian way)
- 23 nearest stop Lennox Row

PARKING is available in the lane adjacent to the entrance to the Hospice & neighbouring streets

St Columba's Hospice is an independent charity. Charity No. SC003634



Queen Margaret University
Edinburgh



St Columba's Hospice
Edinburgh

HOST DEPARTMENT: ST COLUMBA'S HOSPICE

This module is designed for members of the multi-professional health care team who are working with patients with advanced progressive disease. The module is part of an interdisciplinary MSc in Palliative Care. It is at level 11 (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework) i.e. at Scottish Higher Education Masters level. It has a credit rating of 15 Masters SCOTCAT points. It may be taken as part of the MSc in Palliative Care or as an elective in a post graduate award or as a stand alone module for professional development. To undertake this module the student must have two years clinical experience as a qualified practitioner and evidence of recent academic study.

Rationale:

People are living longer with advanced progressive disease, which leads to the development of increasingly complex problems related to pain and other distressing symptoms. Uncontrolled pain and symptoms have a major impact on the quality of life of both the patient and their family. Health professionals have an important role in the assessment, management and support of patients with complex problems at the end of life. They need to adopt a reflective and critical stance in order to recognise the factors that contribute to the experience of complex pain/ symptoms for individual patients and to develop creative approaches to respond to that experience (Corner 2004). This module is relevant to all health care professionals working with patients in the palliative care phase of illness and those with responsibility for advancing clinical practice.

Aim:

To enable the student to critically evaluate and develop practice in relation to caring for people with complex pain and symptoms as a result of advanced, progressive malignant/non-malignant disease.

Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of the module the student will be able to:

- Critically appraise the physical, psychological, social, spiritual and ethical issues that may contribute to the experience of complex pain/ symptoms
- Critically reflect on personal and professional beliefs and values in relation to collaborative working in pain/symptom management
- Demonstrate a critical knowledge of the pathophysiology of pain and other distressing symptoms in people with advanced progressive malignant/non-malignant disease
- Select a significant range of approaches to the holistic assessment of complex pain/symptoms
- Critically evaluate current research, practice and decision-making in pharmacological and non-pharmacological management of complex pain/symptoms
- Devise an original and creative response to working with the person experiencing complex pain/symptoms and their family
- Construct an action plan for developing practice in complex pain/symptom management in the student's area of practice.

Main Topic Areas:

- Definitions of complex pain/symptoms; factors that contribute to the experience; impact on quality of life; inter-professional working in pain/symptom management
- Pathophysiology of complex pain/symptoms in malignant/non-malignant disease
- Holistic assessment of complex pain/symptoms; the evidenced base for pharmacological management; pharmacodynamics of drugs used; the evidence base for non-pharmacological management; evaluation of pain and symptom management strategies
- Current issues (including ethical issues) in the management of complex pain and symptoms

Teaching and Learning Strategies:

A problem-based learning approach will be adopted with case study analyses, literature-based tutorials, reflections on practice, modified lectures.

Teaching Team:

Joan Adam, Nurse Lecturer, Margaret Colquhoun, Senior Nurse Lecturer and other members of the St Columba's Hospice interdisciplinary team including a consultant in palliative medicine and specialist pharmacist.

Assessment:

Critical analysis of a case study from the student's clinical practice (3,500 words).

This module will be in the first semester of the academic year 2008/2009. Classes will be held in St Columba's Hospice on four and a half study days (*23 September 1/2 day), 17 & 31 October, 21 November & 5 December) from 9.15am - 3.45pm. The cost of this module is £365.

* All study days are held on a Friday **except** for 23 September (Tuesday),

Further information can be obtained from the Module Coordinator:

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Applications to:

Admissions
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Queen Margaret University Drive
MUSSELBURGH
East Lothian EH21 6UU
Tel: 0131 474 0000
email: admissions@gmu.ac.uk