Graduate Certificate in Palliative Care Using Person-Centred Communication Skills towards the End of Life (N3615)
Graduate Certificate in Palliative Care - Using Person-Centred Communication Skills towards the End of Life

This module is relevant to all registered health and social care practitioners with a responsibility for patients and families in the palliative care phase of illness. The module may be taken as part of the Graduate Certificate in Palliative Care – an interdisciplinary, modular course of studies at degree level.

It may also be taken as an elective module in other Queen Margaret University health and social care degrees, or as a stand-alone module for continuing professional development. The module has a credit rating of 20 Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework (SCQF) level 9 credits.

Aim

To enable you to develop a repertoire of compassionate communication skills which meet the needs of patients, their family and carers in palliative/end of life care in your area of practice.

Learning Outcomes

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

• assess the priorities and concerns of patients and their families in palliative care and at the end of life
• demonstrate core communication skills in listening and responding to patients, families and their carers
• select strategies and, through the use of effective communication skills, facilitate patients and their families to adjust to living with advanced progressive disease
• explore creative, person-centred approaches to communicating with people facing a life threatening illness
• debate the attributes of good practice in relation to effective written and electronic communication
• identify and analyse current issues (including ethical issues) relating to communication
• demonstrate critical self awareness of your own communication skills through reflecting on an audio-taped interview with a simulated patient/family member.

Teaching and Learning Strategies

The module will engage you in various learning experiences which include skills rehearsal, small group discussion, reflection on case studies, student-led clinical scenarios, online learning and self-assessment of communication.
Assessment Pattern

There are two components of assessment:

- a recording/excerpt of a recording of an interview with a simulated patient/family member in the palliative care phase of illness
- a critical commentary of the recording.

The module will address:

- use of reflection, self-assessment and self awareness in relation to communication skills
- the concept of the therapeutic relationship
- core communication skills – listening and responding, paraphrasing and summarising
- supporting the person during challenging conversations e.g. breaking bad news, discussing resuscitation status, advanced care planning, discussions with patient and family around the time of death
- creative approaches to communicating with patients and families
- communication in the interdisciplinary team (oral, written and electronic).

This module will run in the first semester of the academic year 2017/18 on the following dates: 15 September; 22 September and two out of the following three dates - 4 October, 5 October and 6 October; and 2 November.

The cost of this module in 2017/18 is £580.

St Columba’s Hospice

St Columba’s Hospice opened in 1977 and has cared for many patients and families with palliative care needs in its inpatient, day hospice and community services.

We offer a bright, state-of-the-art Centre for Education & Research to students which, as well as having panoramic views across the Firth of Forth, houses a purpose-built lecture theatre, seminar rooms, and a well-stocked library.

The Hospice has always had an active commitment to education as a key component of its clinical services. There is a strong ethos of interdisciplinary teamwork and many members of the interdisciplinary team contribute to education.
Contact details
If you are interested in this course of study we would like to hear from you.

Please contact:
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Applications to:
Admissions
Queen Margaret University
Queen Margaret University Drive
Musselburgh
EH21 6UU
Tel: 0131 474 0000
Email: admissions@qmu.ac.uk

You can apply online using the online application process at www.qmu.ac.uk

How to find
St Columba’s Hospice
and the Centre for Education & Research
St Columba’s Hospice
15 Boswall Road
Edinburgh
EH5 3RW
The Centre for Education & Research is situated next door to the main Hospice.

Parking
Please use the Hospice car park if there is space. There is a small daily cost for parking. If the car park is full, please be considerate of our neighbours when parking in the surrounding area. There is a bicycle rack in the grounds which we ask all cyclists to use.

Bus Services
8 and 14: nearest stop Granton Road
16: nearest stop Lower Granton Road
23: nearest stop Lennox Row

The University reserves the right to make any necessary change to the course. The programme of study will only be offered when there are sufficient numbers to make it viable.

www.stcolumbashospice.org.uk
0131 551 1381
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