



## **Module Specification**

### Acute Medical Assessment: Theory and Practice

Version: 2023-24, v2.0, 16 Jul 2023

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Acute Medical Assessment: Theory and Practice

**Module code:** UZWYFR-20-M

**Level:** Level 7

**For implementation from:** 2023-24

**UWE credit rating:** 20

**ECTS credit rating:** 10

**Faculty:** Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

**Department:** HAS School of Health and Social Wellbeing

**Partner institutions:** University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust

**Field:** Acute and Critical Care Adult Nursing

**Module type:** Module

**Pre-requisites:** None

**Excluded combinations:** None

**Co-requisites:** None

**Continuing professional development:** Yes

**Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements:** None

## Part 2: Description

### Overview:

Partnership vision for the course :

Module to be co-delivered with University Hospitals Bristol & Weston NHS Foundation Trust (UHBW), delivering the content online and onsite in the simulation centre at UHBW.

Overall aim of this module is to give Registered Nursing Associate and Band 5

nurses working in an acute medical assessment unit (AMU) setting the knowledge, skills and behaviours which allow them to provide initial assessment and management of patients in an acute medical assessment unit setting, which includes:

Understanding and practical skills to care for the vast variety of patients seen in acute medicine assessment settings.

Patient centred and patient safety focused.

To start working more autonomously (within their scope of practice and boundaries) for example using a systematic approach of patient assessment in the AMU setting assessment, initiate appropriate investigations in order to streamline the patients journey and address their immediate needs.

Intended audience:

Registered Band 4 with the support of their employer and Band 5 nurses with 1-2 years experience of working on acute assessment medical units. At present there is no other similar course available in the south west. There is interest from local NHS Trusts as well as Trusts outside the integrated clinical network (ICN) and this module could be transferable to other Trusts within the south west region.

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** To prepare nurses working in acute medical assessment areas to be able to clinically assess, use some clinical reasoning skills and instigate appropriate investigations.

To deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate effectively with patients and their families.

To critically evaluate and apply the underlying pathophysiology of the symptoms a patient may present with in the acute medical assessment unit

**Outline syllabus:** Focus on the most common acute medical emergencies and presentations including chest pain, breathlessness, sepsis, gastro, hepatology disease, and neurological conditions such as stroke.

Using a systems based approach to explore the normal and abnormal physiology underlying the most common signs and symptoms.

Develop clinical decision making skills and holistic assessment skills in this speciality.

Advanced communication skills (difficult conversations, breaking bad news).

Associated pharmacology and the application in clinical practice.

Interpretation of clinical signs and symptoms in the context of abnormal pathophysiology.

This is NOT a clinical examination module.

### **Part 3: Teaching and learning methods**

**Teaching and learning methods:** Problem based learning approaches

Simulation

Interactive lectures

Self directed learning

Peer assessment

**Module Learning outcomes:** On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

**MO1** Critically appraise the aetiological factors and relevant risk factors which contribute to processes of disease

**MO2** Construct a rationale for diagnostic reasoning, using knowledge of the pathophysiological basis of the signs and symptoms associated with a range of disease processes

**MO3** Critically appraise ethical and legal issues which impact on diagnostic reasoning and the inter-professional team

**MO4** Critically apply the knowledge and skills in the acute medical assessment clinical setting to devise a clear initial management plan and evaluate this against pre determined parameters

**MO5** Demonstrate the ability to consider appropriate theoretical principles as part of the decision making process .

**MO6** To critically reflect on and use an evidenced based approach to clinical practice. Critically appraise own learning needs and demonstrate the ability to develop a development plan.

**Hours to be allocated:** 200

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 152 hours

Face-to-face learning = 48 hours

Total = 200

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html>

## **Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** The competency framework developed by the Society for Acute Medicine for healthcare professionals working in acute assessment units will be used as the basis of the portfolio.

Opportunities for formative assessment will take place in classroom and online settings during the module delivery.

The portfolio will address all the learning outcomes of the module.

**Assessment tasks:**

**Portfolio (First Sit)**

Description: An online portfolio with a variety of evidence against a competency framework (Pass/Fail).

Weighting:

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

**Portfolio (Resit)**

Description: An online portfolio with a variety of evidence against a competency framework (Pass/Fail).

Weighting:

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

**Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: