



Module Specification

Communication Skills in Radiotherapy and Cancer Care

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Communication Skills in Radiotherapy and Cancer Care

Module code: UZYKGM-15-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

Faculty: Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Department: HAS School of Health and Social Wellbeing

Partner institutions: None

Field: Allied Health Professions

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module will examine the communication strategies that underpin effective communication and support mechanisms to deliver compassionate, patient centred care to oncology patients and their families.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: The communication skills needed to respond effectively to individual needs will be examined. The limitations of own communication skills when

communicating with patients, their families or advocates who may be dealing with life-limiting or life altering diagnoses. Recognise when to seek further support and advice. Professional codes of conduct and organisational policy will be evaluated and applied to achieve best practice framed by an understanding of psycho-social responses to acute and life-limiting illness.

Outline syllabus: This module will typically include:

Ethical and Professional Issues:

Support/supervision

Boundary setting including consent and confidentiality

Models for reflection and critical incident analysis

Psychological/Social/Spiritual:

Psychosocial responses to acute and chronic illness including a cultural perspective

Frameworks of loss, transition and grief

Models of grief theory and bereavement care

Use of narrative and metaphor

Communication:

Information needs of people with cancer and their carers

Overview of major theories of communication

Approaches to specific emotions including anger/depression/sadness

Coping styles - patients and carers

Barriers to listening

Practical skills - active listening, reflecting, paraphrasing, summarising

Frameworks for managing bad news and collusion

Multi-professional working;

Communication skills within the context of multidisciplinary and inter-professional working

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: See Educational Aims

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

MO1 Critically analyse communication and support mechanisms used in supporting patients and families experiencing loss and change

MO2 Identify and evaluate key communication skills required to make an effective response to individual needs

MO3 Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of psycho-social responses to acute and life limiting illness

MO4 Critically evaluate and apply professional codes of conduct and organisational policy in relation to consent and confidentiality

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Total = 150

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link

<https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/336ECAFE-F34D-13E0-4097-7982601BDE8F.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: This module has one assessment task; a 2500 word written assignment

Assignment is based on a clinical incident relating to communication issues and incorporating an analysis of relevant theories and concepts.

Students will undertake the following activities to enable them to complete the assignment:

A audio recording of a simulated patient conversation

The production of a transcript

These will be used to write a written reflective account demonstrating the student's analysis of the conversation that develops the skills highlighted in the transcript

Rationale:

This assignment draws together the 3 core themes of the module:- psychological needs, communication skills and self-awareness to enable students to demonstrate:

Ability to reflect on and analyse communication processes in relation to caring for people with cancer and palliative care needs

Ability to evaluate and integrate theoretical knowledge with evidence from the transcript

Personal learning in relation to communication skills

Formative Assessment

Students will be able to submit a draft of their assignment. Module workshops provide a formative opportunity for students to discuss their tape recording and assignment brief.

Assessment tasks:

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: 2500 word written assignment

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: 2500 word written assignment

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Radiotherapy and Oncology [Sep][FT][Glenside][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22