



Module Specification

Complex clinical reasoning for musculoskeletal and neurological physiotherapy practice

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Contents

Module Specification	1
Part 1: Information	2
Part 2: Description	2
Part 3: Teaching and learning methods	3
Part 4: Assessment	4
Part 5: Contributes towards	6

Part 1: Information

Module title: Complex clinical reasoning for musculoskeletal and neurological physiotherapy practice

Module code: UZYKHC-30-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

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: Not applicable

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: This module will develop advanced physiotherapy assessment and management skills that are relevant to patients with complex musculoskeletal and neurological conditions.

Outline syllabus: The focus of the module will be the development of advanced clinical reasoning and skills within both musculoskeletal physiotherapy (such as persistent pain management and whiplash associated disorder), and neurological physiotherapy (such as complex tone management and vestibular rehabilitation).

As a combined musculoskeletal and neurological module, assessment and management skills that are used in both settings will be explored. Similarly, the module will consider where commonality lies within complex musculoskeletal and neurological conditions, such as complex regional pain syndrome and functional neurological disorder. Management of patients presenting with a combination of musculoskeletal and neurological conditions will also be considered.

The module will develop the use and application of the biopsychosocial model to patients with complex clinical presentations, considering where appropriate the role of the multi-disciplinary team in holistic management. Development of clinical reasoning skills within complex scenarios will form a key part of this module. This will involve the integration of personal experience, current research evidence and patient expectations and values. Use of outcome measures in evaluating the effectiveness of interventions will also be considered.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: See Outline Syllabus

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

MO1 Develop and evaluate enhanced physiotherapy assessment and management skills that are relevant to patients with complex musculoskeletal clinical presentations, selecting appropriate outcome measures with justification

MO2 Develop and evaluate enhanced physiotherapy assessment and management skills that are relevant to patients with complex neurological clinical presentations, selecting appropriate outcome measures with justification

MO3 Develop enhanced physiotherapy skills that can be applied in both musculoskeletal and neurological settings, and identify and justify occasions when these might be appropriate

MO4 Demonstrate application of the bio-psycho-social model, considering how the relative contribution of each component of a patient presentation might be managed within physiotherapy and/or the multidisciplinary team

MO5 Apply clinical reasoning to complex scenarios, and provide justification which incorporates reflection on personal experience, evidence based practice, assessment of risk, and patient expectations and values

MO6 Synthesise knowledge, skills and clinical reasoning to develop a physiotherapy management plan for complex patient presentations, and be able to use written and verbal formats to communicate this effectively and concisely

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Total = 300

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: Two components of assessment are included in this module to encourage students to develop their knowledge and understanding of both complex neurological and musculoskeletal conditions.

1. Defence of poster presentation and critical questioning (20 minutes); this will require students to synthesise and critically summarise information about the management of a complex musculoskeletal condition into a poster. Key to this assessment is the defence of the poster which will enable students to demonstrate

clinical reasoning, critical analysis of the literature and knowledge of the biopsychosocial model. It will also show their understanding of contemporary issues in the management of complex musculoskeletal conditions.

2. Written assignment (2500 words); students will address the management of a complex neurological condition and demonstrate ability to critically discuss and justify treatment and management options in a written format. Students will be presented with a selection of questions to promote student led enquiry of current research evidence and then be required to answer one of these in an essay format. It will encourage a deeper level of learning with emphasis on critically interpreting and applying information in a written task.

Formative Assessment

An opportunity will be available within the module to prepare a poster and draft essay and receive peer and/or staff feedback.

Assessment tasks:

Poster (First Sit)

Description: Defence of poster presentation (20 minutes)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: Written assignment (2500 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

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

Poster (Resit)

Description: Defence of poster presentation (20 minutes)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Written assignment (2500 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

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

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Physiotherapy [Sep][FT][Glenside][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22