



University of Brighton

Graduate Programme in Health and Social Sciences
Flexible professional development
School of Health Professions

www.brighton.ac.uk/health

MSc / PG Diploma Neuromusculoskeletal Physiotherapy

The MSc Neuromusculoskeletal Physiotherapy at the University of Brighton provides an opportunity for chartered physiotherapists to develop advanced skills in the examination, assessment and treatment of patients with neuromusculoskeletal dysfunction. Participants enhance evidence-based practice by critically evaluating the theoretical basis and clinical application of manipulative physiotherapy.

Course Structure

Modules	PG Certificate	PG Diploma	MSc
Optional module from the GPHSS	20	20	20
Neuromusculoskeletal (NMS) Management - Lower Quadrant HEM 18	20	20	20
Neuromusculoskeletal (NMS) Management - Upper Quadrant HEM 20	20	20	20
Clinical Placement 1 Neuromusculoskeletal Physiotherapy HEM 19		20	20
Clinical Placement 2 Neuromusculoskeletal Physiotherapy HEM 21		20	20
Research Methods for Health Professionals HEM 07		20	20
Dissertation HEM 96			60
LEVEL 7 CREDITS	60	120	180

Neuromusculoskeletal Management Lower Quadrant (HEM18) 20 level 7 credits

Neuromusculoskeletal Management Upper Quadrant (HEM20) 20 level 7 credits

Mode of study

Intensive two weeks followed, five to six weeks later, by a further week in the university.

These modules use a mix of group discussion, case studies and practical sessions to develop the student's knowledge and skills underpinning their clinical practice with patients with

neuromusculoskeletal dysfunction of the lower and upper quadrant. These two modules prepare the student for the relevant clinical placement modules.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

Evaluate and reflect on the importance of patient centred care.

1. Demonstrate critical evaluation, synthesis and application of knowledge of biomedical, clinical and behavioural sciences relevant to the upper/lower quadrant.
2. Examine, assess, treat and manage people with neuromusculoskeletal dysfunction of the upper/lower quadrant with a high level of clinical expertise utilising advanced clinical reasoning skills.
3. Critically evaluate the examination, differential diagnosis, assessment, treatment and management of a person with neuromusculoskeletal dysfunction in the light of theoretical and research evidence.
4. Demonstrate ability to present, discuss and defend concepts and opinions of the science of neuromusculoskeletal physiotherapy effectively through written and spoken language.
5. Analyse and critically appraise their professional role within the context of the Health Care setting.

Clinical Placement 1 (HEM19) 20 level 7 credits

Clinical Placement 2 (HEM21) 20 level 7 credits

This module seeks to enable the student to develop a high level of clinical expertise in the examination, assessment, treatment and management of neuromusculoskeletal conditions of predominantly the upper quadrant (upper limb and spine) so that they are safe, effective and efficient practitioners. The student will take responsibility for a patient caseload. The student will examine, assess, treat and manage people with neuromusculoskeletal conditions of predominantly the upper quadrant under the supervision of a specialist clinical mentor.

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Evaluate and reflect on their ability to deliver patient centred care
2. Demonstrate effective communication skills to gain accurate and comprehensive information about the type and nature of the patient's complaint.
3. Examine, assess, treat and manage people with neuromusculoskeletal dysfunction of the upper quadrant with a high level of clinical expertise (PGDip and MSc).
4. Formulate comprehensive and reasoned hypotheses following examination of the patient.
5. Effectively solve clinical problems in clinical cases including complex and unpredictable situations for people with neuromusculoskeletal dysfunction of the upper quadrant and make sound management judgements.
6. Critically evaluate, synthesise and apply knowledge of biomedical, clinical and behavioural sciences.
7. Verbally present, discuss and defend concepts and opinions of the science of neuromusculoskeletal physiotherapy effectively.
8. Analyse and critically appraise his/her professional role within the context of the Health Care setting.
9. Demonstrate an understanding of neuromusculoskeletal physiotherapy in relation to other health professions in order to facilitate professional interdisciplinary relationships.
10. Communicate effectively with professional colleagues.

Research Methods for Health Professionals (HEM07) 20 M level credits

Mode of study Intensive – one week study block. Five days in total.

It is essential that all those engaged in the health professions should be critical consumers of research. For an increasing number of health professionals, it is also necessary to be able to undertake basic scientific research related to their discipline. Such activity is an integral part of study

at Master's level. This module aims both to enable students to increase their critical understanding of published research findings, and to develop specific research skills in the preparation of research proposals, project design, methods of data collection, analysis and presentation. A balance between quantitative and qualitative methodologies is held throughout the module. Relevant ethical issues and sources of information will be discussed, and appropriate methods of data manipulation and analysis will be reviewed and practised. Students will have the opportunity to conduct a small group study, and the module will conclude with students reporting their findings and reflecting on their experience of the research process.

Learning outcomes

At the end of the module, students will have:

- Developed specific research skills in the preparation of research proposals, project design, methods of data collection, analysis and presentation of research findings, relevant to their professional practice.
- A clear understanding of the potential limitations of a variety of research methods
- The ability to explore and analyse critically theoretical issues relating to research.

An Example of an option module

Extended Scope of Practice (HEM73) 20 M level credits

This module explores the theoretical basis for allied health professionals extending their scope of practice in the healthcare environment. Professional, legal and ethical issues will be covered alongside collaborative working and clinical governance. How extended scope roles can be implemented successfully will be considered.

Learning outcomes

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

- Evaluate and discuss the legal, professional and ethical implications of extending scope of practice
- Critically explore the communication and collaborative working issues raised by extending scope of practice
- Justify the importance of clinical governance in extended scope roles
- Critically reflect on the role of the extended scope practitioner to train develop, educate and inform others.

Providing a flexible route to MACP membership

Stand alone module

The following modules can be taken as stand alone modules. Please note that you need to be enrolled on the course to take the clinical placement modules.

Core modules

- Neuromusculoskeletal Management Lower Quadrant (HEM18) 20 level 7 credits
- Neuromusculoskeletal Management Upper Quadrant (HEM20) 20 level 7 credits
- Research Methods for Health Professionals (HEM07) 20 M level credits

There is an extensive list of optional modules which includes

- Extended Scope of Practice
- Exercise in Rehabilitation
- Exploring pain
- Analysis of function

Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL) / Prior Experiential Learning

One of the fundamental principles underlying modular programmes of study within the Credit Accumulation and Transfer Scheme is the ability to accredit prior learning and prior experiential learning.

- For a PGCert credit can be given for up to 30 M level credits. Credit cannot be given for any integrative or summative module.
- For a PGDip credit can be given for up to 60 M level credits. Credit cannot be given for any integrative or summative module.
- For a Masters award credit can be given for up to 90 taught M level credits required by the award. No credit can be claimed for any M level dissertation or project.

The core modules on the MSc Neuromusculoskeletal Physiotherapy must be completed but this may be APL of equivalent modules that have been completed at another institution.