MDSC160
Advanced Practice in Palliative Care
Beginning September 2015 & March 2016

About this module
This course has been developed in collaboration with The Marie Curie Palliative Care Institute Liverpool. It aims to provide you with the opportunity to examine the principles and practice of contemporary palliative care, including the nature and consequences of advanced life limiting illness.

You will have the opportunity to engage with topics such as the impact of ethics on treatment decisions, clinical symptom management and communication. The teaching methods used within the course encourage you to reflect and critically analyse the complex issues involved in developing effective clinical practice.

Module aims
1. To provide students with an in depth understanding of the principles and practice of palliative care, including the nature of advanced life limiting disease and its consequences and the issues relating to treatment decisions.
2. To enable students to develop the ability to analyse critically the complex issues involved and to develop more effective clinical practice

Learning Outcomes
On completion of the module the student will be able to:
1. demonstrate a critical understanding of evidence based palliative care
2. review and analyse critically current practice and research in pain and symptom control in patients with advanced life limiting illness
3. examine critically the sociological and psychological consequences of advanced life limiting illness
4. debate critically the ethical issues surrounding advanced life limiting illness
5. apply critically and evaluate strategies to elicit and respond to problems, concerns and feelings and to tailor complex information to the specific needs of patients with life limiting illness, their carers and families

Module assessment consists of three components.
1. An Oral Presentation of a case history illustrating the principles of palliative care covered in the module
2. A 4000 word case history illustrating the principles covered in the module
3. A 1500 word critical reflection of learning from the module

In completing these assessments, students will be supported by a member of staff from the University.
Strengths of this module

- High level of learning and assessment quality assurance gained from significant University experience in delivering higher level credit bearing professional development programmes.
- Use of work based learning approach to maximise and capture learning and assessment from within the workplace.
- Access to excellent facilities including the University learning centres and online resources.
- The development of unique and customised online learning content which will provide highly flexible learning experiences at times convenient to learners in the workforce.

Whilst the module will run as a stand-alone programme, the credits can contribute towards a Masters degree within the Faculty of Health & Life Sciences.

Entry requirements

First Degree or a professional diploma in appropriate healthcare or related subject, registered to practice with appropriate professional regulatory body. Evidence of previous study at level 3 and the ability to study at Masters Level.

This 20 credit Masters level course is accredited with the University of Liverpool and can be undertaken individually as part of your Continuing Professional Development (CPD).

The course can also be undertaken as a module within a specific MSc Programme which includes exit points at:

- Post Graduate Certificate (PGCert), Post Graduate Diploma (PGDip) or MSc level

Module funded by Health Education North West through CPD Apply.

To request an application form or for information regarding the module content and delivery contact Teri Harding at terih@liv.ac.uk or telephone 01517945661