NU7571: Applied Science and Principles of Orthopaedic Nursing

Module Leader  Anne-Marie Malone
Module Lecturers  Educational facilitators, clinical facilitators, clinical staff, multi-disciplinary guest lecturers

Hours and ECTS credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Student Effort</th>
<th>Direct Contact</th>
<th>Specified Activities</th>
<th>Self-Directed Learning</th>
<th>Direct Contact: Supervision</th>
<th>Total Hours</th>
<th>ECTS credits</th>
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<td>50</td>
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<td>110</td>
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Rationale and Aims

The National Council for the Professional Development of Nursing (2001) identifies that the specialist nurse should act as a consultant in clinical practice and education to both nurses and the wider multidisciplinary team. This highlights the evolving nature of the specialist nurse’s role, as one of change agent, management, leadership and utilising evidence based practise to ensure the attainment of excellence in patient care. It is vital therefore that nurses working within the orthopaedic specialist area have the proficient knowledge, skills and attitudes to undertake this role.

The aims of this module are to develop the student’s knowledge and understanding of orthopaedics, related clinical skills and clinical judgement in order to enhance their ability to care for the physical, psychological, social and spiritual needs of orthopaedic patients utilising a problem solving approach. The student will develop a greater understanding of the applied sciences that underpin orthopaedic care and will also demonstrate enhanced knowledge and understanding of the principles and practice of orthopaedic nursing. The student will critically explore and demonstrate the nursing care of adults with inflammatory conditions, patients who require ongoing rehabilitation including education on preventative and adaptive responses to their condition. The student will also critically explore management and nursing care of patients with bone tumours and metabolic conditions. This module will also develop the knowledge, understanding and skills of the student in order to effectively care for children with fractures and orthopaedic congenital disorders.

Module Content

- Course Introduction
- Contemporary Orthopaedic Nursing
- Surgical Wound Management
- Infection Control
- Acute and Chronic Pain Management
- Patient Controlled Analgesia
- Histology of Bone
- Connective Tissue
- Overview of Skeleton
- Muscles
- The role of Physiotherapy and Hydrotherapy
- Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Osteoarthritis
Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this programme, students should be able to:

- Describe knowledge of the anatomy and physiology of the musculoskeletal system.
- Describe the pathophysiological responses to orthopaedic conditions.
- Effectively undertake and critically examine a comprehensive nursing assessment of the orthopaedic patient.
- Critically explore and effectively apply the principles of communication with patients/family/parents empowering them to become involved in decisions relating to the delivery of care.
- Using relevant evidence based practice, explore and critically analyse the pain management of the orthopaedic patient.
- Using current evidence based practice critically discuss the role of the nurse in the assessment of the child with a fracture trauma or a congenital orthopaedic condition.
- Within the scope of practice, develop a nursing process approach whilst planning individualised holistic nursing care for such patients and their families.

Methods of Teaching and Student Learning

Group work, lecture, guest speakers, guided discussion, practical demonstrations, self-directed learning.

Methods of Assessment

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<td>Written Assignment</td>
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Indicative Resources - more detailed lists may be provided by lecturers


