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course factfile

Oncology Pharmacy Practice Certificate of Professional Development (By On-line Distance Learning)

Introduction

The School of Pharmacy & Chemistry offers a wide variety of courses at undergraduate and postgraduate level for full and part time students. Other postgraduate courses offered within the school include a PgCert/PgDip/ MSc in Clinical Pharmacy, a CPD in Clinical Pharmacokinetics (by on-line distance learning) and a professional doctorate in Pharmacy (DPharm). The Liverpool School is the second oldest School of Pharmacy in the country having been established in 1849. At its last inspection, the school received an excellent grade (23/24) for its teaching on pharmacy related programmes, as part of the national Quality Assurance Assessment exercise.

The Course

The Oncology Pharmacy Practice Programme has evolved from the amalgamation of enthusiasm and expertise which has been generated over the years in the University and in Oncology pharmacy departments in the North West of England. The course is offered as a Certificate in Professional Development.

The overall aim of the course is to provide a rational, flexibly structured and coherent programme of study, which is relevant to the needs of oncology pharmacists, to facilitate the professional development of the student and to lay the foundations for a successful career to benefit cancer patients and the NHS or private sector.

Our other aims are:

- To provide a sound knowledge base in the fields studied and develop wider process skills of practical application, communication, problem solving and team working with other healthcare professionals
- To foster the development of an enquiring, open-minded attitude, tempered with scientific discipline for oncology, which encourages lifelong learning

- To permit a degree of student choice and learning outcomes associated with student-selected topics, achieved through open learning.

Course Structure and Content Structure

The University operates its programmes on a modular basis. The programme is composed of one module which has a credit value of 20M-Credits. Each credit relates to 10 hours of student learning. The course therefore represents 200 hours of professional development. Students undertake the module through distance learning, using the University's Blackboard on-line delivery system. It is anticipated that students will complete the course in one calendar year.

Content

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills, qualities and other attributes in the following areas:

Overview of cancer, first principles, cancer kinetics, lung cancer, breast cancer, colorectal cancer, gynaecological and urological cancers, skin cancers, lymphomas and leukaemia. Monitoring patients, managing toxicities, administration of chemotherapy, infection, symptom control, oncological emergencies, technical aspects, clinical trials, prescription review and statutory framework. Intellectual skills are developed through practical project work in the format of a portfolio. Open ended practical and project work is designed to permit students to demonstrate achievement of all of the learning outcomes in each category. Practical skills are enhanced through integration of theory and patient management.

Assessment

The course is assessed by an on-line Multiple Choice Question (MCQ) examination and by submission of

a portfolio of evidence based on CPD principles and patient profile examples. Assessments are moderated by an external examiner.

Entry requirements

All entrants will be pharmacists working in or having access to the field of oncology within secondary/tertiary care. Entrants will hold an honours degree in Pharmacy. All students will require access to computing and Internet services.

How to Apply

Application forms and further information can be obtained from:

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Postgraduate Programme Administrator
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COURSE LEADER

Dr Charles Morecroft
Tel: 0151 231 2296
Fax: 0151 231 2170
Email: d.w.morecroft@ljmu.ac.uk

PRINCIPAL COURSE TUTORS

Jane Ashton (Royal Marsden Hospital)

Helen Clark (Clatterbridge Centre for Oncology)

Anne Hines (Merseyside and Cheshire Cancer Network)

Calum Polwart (County Durham and Darlington Foundation NHS Trust)

Geoff Saunders (Greater Manchester and Cheshire Cancer Network)

Nisha Shaunak (The Royal Marsden Hospital London)