

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION



1	Awarding Institution	Newcastle University
2	Teaching Institution	Newcastle University
3	Final Award	Postgraduate Certificate
4	Programme Title	Postgraduate Certificate in Conscious Sedation
5	Programme Code	3182P
6	Programme Accreditation	N/A
7	QAA Subject Benchmark(s)	N/A
8	FHEQ Level	7
9	Last updated	May 2023

10 Programme Aims

The aim of the programme is to provide students with:

Postgraduate Certificate

1. A systematic understanding of the theoretical principles which underpin conscious sedation in dentistry and the care of patients undergoing sedation
2. A comprehensive practical understanding of clinical skills in techniques of intravenous and inhalational conscious sedation, as applicable to current UK practice in dentistry

11 Learning Outcomes

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

Knowledge and Understanding

On completing the PG **Certificate** students should have:

- A1 Knowledge of the aetiology and patho-physiology of anxiety in the management of anxious dental patients
- A2 Systematic understanding of the pharmacology of drugs used for conscious sedation
- A3 Practical understanding of the selection and assessment of patients for conscious sedation
- A4 Practical understanding of the clinical skills and techniques used for conscious sedation in dentistry
- A5 Comprehensive understanding of the peri-operative care of sedation patients
- A6 Critical awareness of current guidelines and literature which underpin and regulate the practice of conscious sedation in the UK

Teaching and Learning Methods

A1-A6 are addressed through a mixture of lectures and small group seminars, augmented by independent study and directed by the provision of reading lists and support by academic staff. They are further developed by written assignments based on the topics of each section, exposure to clinical material during clinical sessions and critical analysis of clinical cases.

Assessment Strategy

Formative assessment of knowledge and understanding occurs during classroom activities and during clinical sessions. Summative assessment of knowledge, understanding and application is undertaken at the end of each module by the completion of critical essays an OSCE examination and SCOTs.

Intellectual Skills

On completing the PG **Certificate** students should be able to:

- B1 Critically evaluate the current evidence base on clinical techniques used for adult and paediatric conscious sedation
- B2 Critically appraise literature and guidelines on conscious sedation and apply these to clinical practice

Teaching and Learning Methods

B1-B2 are developed through the teaching and learning strategies as described above. Independent study and completion of critical essays requiring critical evaluation are particularly important.

Assessment Strategy

These are assessed summatively by the completion of critical essays.

Practical Skills

On completing the PG **Certificate** students should be able to:

- C1 Assess the suitability of patients for conscious sedation
- C2 Apply knowledge and skills to managing the peri-operative care of sedated patients
- C3 Apply clinical skills to manage anxious adult dental patients using intravenous midazolam
- C4 Apply clinical skills to manage paediatric and adult dental patients using inhalational nitrous oxide/oxygen
- C5 Evaluate, monitor and manage the clinical condition of sedated patients
- C6 Develop management strategies to manage sedation-related emergencies
- C7 Demonstrate application of knowledge and skills in providing a high quality sedation service for dental patients

Teaching and Learning Methods

C1-C7 are sedation skills which are developed through practical and clinical sessions and involve the hands-on treatment of patients. Practical and clinical teaching is overseen by a clinical supervisor and reinforced by individual feedback at the end of each session.

Assessment Strategy

Practical and clinical skills are assessed formatively through observed clinical sessions with feedback from a clinical supervisor. Summative assessment is undertaken by the completion of OSCE examination and SCOTs.

Transferable/Key Skills

On completing the PG **Certificate** students should be able to:

- D1 Communicate effectively in writing by means of well-presented written essays
- D2 Utilise paper and electronic information resources skilfully and appropriately
- D3 Plan, organise and prioritise work activities in order to meet deadlines
- D4 Learn how to solve problems independently
- D5 Undertake effective oral communication with patients, nursing staff, supervisors and peers
- D6 Perform practical skills relating to clinical sedation care

Teaching and Learning Methods

D1-D4 are developed with the requirement to research and produce written essays for each module. Feedback on assignments reinforces learning in this area.
D5-D6 are addressed through practical and clinical attachment sessions, with feedback after each session by the clinical supervisor.

Assessment Strategy

Transferable skills are summatively assessed from the completion of written essays.

12 Programme Curriculum, Structure and Features**Basic structure of the programme**

The Pg **Certificate** programme, which is part time, extends over 12 months and consists of 60 credits comprising three 20 credit modules. It consists of a formal taught component, directed self-study and supervised clinical practice. The curriculum is taught using a range of methods including lectures, seminars, practical, clinical instruction and a substantial amount of self-directed learning.

Key features of the programme (including what makes the programme distinctive)

The programme is one of the few in the UK that provides dentists with Level 7 PG Certificate training in sedation. The PG Certificate provides students with hands on clinical training and provides the key knowledge base and skills in conscious sedation that are required to practice conscious sedation safely as an independent practitioner.

Programme regulations (link to on-line version)

[R3182P_vFinal.pdf](#)

13 Support for Student Learning

Generic information regarding University provision is available at the following link.

[qsh_progspec_generic_info.docx](#)

14 Methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of teaching and learning

Generic information regarding University provision is available at the following link.

[qsh_progspec_generic_info.docx](#)

15 Regulation of assessment

Generic information regarding University provision is available at the following link.

[qsh_progspec_generic_info.docx](#)

The University Prospectus: <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/>

Degree Programme and University Regulations: <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/regulations/docs/>

Please note. This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and of the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if she/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities provided.