


PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION	 Newcastle University
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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 2025

10	Programme Aims
<p>The aim of the programme is to provide students with:</p> <p>Postgraduate Certificate</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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
<p>The PG Certificate programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas.</p>	
Knowledge and Understanding	
<p>On completing the PG Certificate students should have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 though 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_2526_vFinal.pdf

13 Support for Student Learning
Generic information regarding University provision is available at the following link. General Information

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. General Information

15 Regulation of assessment
Generic information regarding University provision is available at the following link. General Information

The University Prospectus https://www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/
Degree Programme and University Regulations: University Regulations

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.

Mapping of Intended Learning Outcomes onto Curriculum/Modules

Intended Learning Outcome	Module
A1	CON8000
A2	CON8000
A3	CON8000
A4	CON8000
A5	CON8000
A6	CON8000
B1	CON8000
B2	CON8001, CON8002
C1	CON8001, CON8002
C2	CON8001, CON8002
C3	CON8002
C4	CON8002
C5	CON8001, CON8002
C6	CON8002
C7	CON8001, CON8002
D1	CON8001
D2	CON8001
D3	CON8001
D4	CON8000, CON8001, CON8002
D5	CON8001, CON8002
D6	CON8002