The University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) offers a range of degree and postgraduate programmes for professionals working with people with cancer, in any setting, and/or working with patients requiring palliative care.

We know that health professionals never stop learning and need to continue to develop knowledge and skills in order to meet the ever changing needs of the population. We also understand that the demands of work and home life can leave little time to dedicate to enhancing skills. That’s why modules can be studied individually, for continuing professional development, or to contribute towards a degree or Masters programme.

The opportunities available reflect the breadth of scope and challenges inherent in working in these areas and reflect the changing priorities in cancer and palliative care.
MSc Delivering Quality Cancer Services
One year full-time, 2-5 years part-time

The shift in emphasis to outcomes in government policy (DoH, 2011), including quality of life, survivorship and reducing inequality, further emphasises the need for continued, advanced education and training to develop a workforce to deliver flexible and effective services, and to continue to extend the evidence base for practice.

In response to this, UCLan’s Cancer Studies Centre has developed a programme that provides the health care professional with a greater understanding of cancer, its impact on people, and how organisations need to develop in order to deliver effective services based on service user needs.

This is a multidisciplinary programme that will appeal to a wide range of practitioners looking to develop their career in cancer services. It is delivered by teaching staff and external experts with high national and international profiles who are at the forefront of research and innovation in the cancer field, ensuring a highly stimulating course that challenges students to think in different ways about how they deliver the services they offer.

Topics include: Cancer Awareness, Detection and Prevention; Understanding and Living with Cancer; End of Life Care; Leadership, Policy and Service Change; Management Coaching; and Research.

PhD
5-7 years part-time

UCLan has a vibrant Cancer Studies Centre, with a number of highly experienced researchers with considerable expertise in their field. The research conducted is inter-disciplinary and inter-professional, integrating individual and population perspectives on health and wellbeing. Researchers come from a wide variety of disciplines, with the emphasis on the translation or application of high-quality research findings to guide clinical and policy decision-making. In working towards a doctoral thesis, students will be supervised by nationally and internationally renowned academics who are at the forefront of research in their chosen field.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD) MODULES

Nutritional Support and Decision Making in Practice
6 days over 12 weeks (supported by e-learn)
20 credits at level 6

This module aims to examine the various options available in managing and supporting nutritional care in the clinical environment. The emphasis will be on effective nutritional assessment and the application of this to decisions regarding nutritional interventions within a multi-disciplinary framework. The module addresses the quality improvement agenda and the Care Quality Commission inspection framework, including meeting nutritional and hydration needs to ensure compliance with dignity and nutrition for older people requirements.

Topics include: nutritional screening and assessment; oral nutrition and supplementation and enteral; legal and ethical issues and parenteral nutritional interventions.

Managing Cancer
12 days over 26 weeks (supported by e-learn)
40 credits at level 6

This module aims to give the student a thorough understanding of cancer disease processes, the main treatments used in cancer care, the management of their effects and the patient trajectory. The module also aims to enable practitioners to question, explore and challenge practice issues; to evaluate and develop effective interventions; and to develop practice within a multi-professional framework of care.

PrD/ Professional Doctorate in Health
5-7 years part-time

The Professional Doctorate in Health is an exciting initiative which aims to develop senior practitioners with the skills and capacity to apply critical thinking skills to practice and work at an advanced professional and inter-professional level. Offering an award broadly equivalent to PhD level, the PrD provides an opportunity to complete an advanced programme of study, focused on students’ individual needs. The two-stage structure (MSc/PrD) means that students can develop their research in a series of steps culminating in doctoral level research. Students undertake a range of Masters modules for Stage 1. Stage 2 comprises the doctoral research programme at level 8, with supervision from nationally and internationally recognised experts in their field. Depending on the modules chosen the modes of study may include campus study or e-learning.

PrD in Health
Topics include: Cancer Prevention and Early Detection; Cancer Treatment; Management of Specific Cancers; and Symptom Management.

**PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF PAIN MANAGEMENT**
6 days over 12 weeks (supported by e-learn)
20 credits at level 6

The aim of this module is to enhance the role of the health care practitioner in the assessment and management of pain. The module will provide an opportunity for qualified health care practitioners to develop evidence-based approaches to practice with the overall aim of producing a reflective practitioner, skilled in pain management who has proactive and reactive skills that are exercised to the maximum benefit of the patient in pain.

Topics include: Pain Classification; The Physiology of Pain; and Practical Pain Management Skills.

**PALLIATIVE CARE PRACTICE**
11 half days in the classroom plus 3 days negotiated learning over 16 weeks (supported by e-learn)
40 credits at level 6

The aim of this module is to focus on enhancing knowledge and skills that relate to palliative care practice. The module aims to facilitate learning to support and enhance the practitioner’s role as a member of the multidisciplinary team, in providing holistic and individualised care for clients and their families who are approaching the palliative phase of their illness. The therapeutic relationship, care and symptom management, care delivery and legal and ethical issues related to palliative care are considered.

Topics include: Therapeutic Relationships; Symptom Management; and Care Delivery.

**CARE MANAGEMENT AT THE END OF LIFE**
One morning each week over 12 weeks (supported by e-learn)
20 credits at level 6

This module aims to give practitioners an understanding of the current challenges presented by end of life care within the arenas in which such care now takes place. It will look at the professional, political, sociological and philosophical backgrounds to current understandings of death and dying, as well as recent policy, reforms and care frameworks in end of life care.

The focus throughout will be on multi-professional approaches to delivering care, with emphasis on patient and carer perspectives.

Topics include: The Sociology of Death and Dying; The Disadvantaged Dying; and Frameworks for End of Life Care.

**TREATMENT AND CARE IN HAEMATOLOGICAL DISEASE**
6 days in the classroom over 12 weeks (supported by e-learn)
20 credits at level 6

This module is aimed at practitioners who want to increase their knowledge and understanding of haematological diseases and their treatment. The focus throughout will be on multi-professional approaches to delivering care, with emphasis on patient and carer perspectives.

Topics include: Normal and Abnormal Anatomy and Physiology; Disease Processes; Treatment Options; Symptom Management and Supportive Care.
COMMUNICATION IN LIFE-THREATENING ILLNESS
3 day study block, plus one follow-up day (supported by e-learn)
20 credits at level 6

This module is aimed at practitioners who wish to further develop their skills in communication with patients and carers in the context of life threatening illness. Using well-established interactive teaching strategies, the module enables students to focus on how they interact with patients and others, seeking to develop the quality of such interactions and addressing the needs of client groups more effectively.

Topics include: Communication Theory; Approaches to Managing Difficult Communication Situations; and Effective Assessment of Needs.

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF CYTOTOXIC CHEMOTHERAPY AND BIOLOGICAL THERAPY ADMINISTRATION
12 study days over 2 semesters (supported by e-learn)
40 credits at level 6

This module is aimed at those who wish to enhance their knowledge and competence in chemotherapy and biotherapy administration, both in theory and practice, to enable them to become safe, knowledgeable and competent practitioners who can support patients undergoing such treatments.

Topics include: Normal and Abnormal Cell Reproduction; Haematopoiesis and Immunology; Drug classifications and actions; and Modes of Administration of Drugs.

CANCER AWARENESS AND EARLY DETECTION
6 days in the classroom over 12 weeks
20 credits at level 7

This module aims to increase understanding and practice of public health, primary care and community approaches to reducing cancer mortality and improve cancer survival through prevention, cancer awareness of signs and symptoms and early detection of cancer. Students gain practical skills in interpreting cancer data and in applying a population perspective in cancer, across a variety of settings within which they may work (hospital, community, third sector).

Topics include: cancer epidemiology; cancer delay; cancer inequalities; cancer screening; cancer signs and symptoms; commissioning for cancer; community engagement in cancer.

UCLAN’S CANCER STUDIES CENTRE

In addition to providing these modules and courses, UCLan has a vibrant Cancer Studies Centre consisting of academic staff from a wide range of disciplines with internationally renowned research profiles, with strong links to external groups concerned with supporting and delivering cancer services. The aims of UCLan Cancer Studies Centre includes the promotion of collaborative research and enhanced educational opportunities. This includes hosting national conferences, public seminars and other activities that showcase the diversity of work of the Centre.

For further details of UCLan Cancer Studies Centre activities and events, and to be added to our mailing list, please contact us at uclancancerstudies@uclan.ac.uk.

To find out more about these programmes and how you can fit studying into your working life:
Visit: www.uclan.ac.uk/pg (MSc and PhD/PrD) www.uclan.ac.uk/schools/health/pqf.php (CPD modules)
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