

Higher National Unit Specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Patient Care in Radiography

Unit code: DW99 34

Unit purpose: This Unit discusses the general care of radiographic patients and, in particular, the care of those patients presenting with a range of additional specific conditions which effect their treatment and care in the radiography department.

On completion of the Unit the candidate should be able to:

- 1 Describe the clinical quality assurance procedures employed within a Radiotherapy or Radiology department.
- 2 Describe the common patient care requirements of a Radiotherapy or Radiology department.
- 3 Demonstrate safe moving and handling procedures and CPR.

Credit points and level: 1 HN Credit at SCQF level 7: (8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7*)

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

Recommended prior knowledge and skills: Access to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Working with Others at level 6 and Communication and Problem Solving at level 5 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Context for delivery: If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes. This unit is mandatory in the frameworks for HNC Allied Health Professions: Diagnostic Imaging and HNC Allied Health Professions: Radiotherapy.

Assessment: This Unit should be assessed by two components. Outcomes, 1 and 2 could be assessed through a single work-based patient case study of approximately 2,500 words. Outcome 3 will be assessed through a practical moving and handling and CPR examinations.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Patient Care in Radiography

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The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, knowledge and/or skills, and Evidence Requirements are mandatory.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the knowledge and/or skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Candidates should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

Outcome 1

Describe the clinical quality assurance procedures used within a Radiotherapy or Radiology department

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Own role and role of others within the Radiotherapy or Radiology team
- ◆ Importance of accurate patient identification within a radiation environment
- ◆ Methods to confirm identity
- ◆ Procedures to protect the unborn child during irradiation of female patients of childbearing capacity
- ◆ Requirements for and implications of obtaining patient consent for radiographic procedures
- ◆ Confidentiality of patient information
- ◆ Data protection
- ◆ Medico-legal aspects of sharing radiographic information

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ apply the principles of quality control and quality assurance to their clinical work

Assessment guidelines

Outcomes 1 and 2 could be assessed through a case study based on a given scenario with short answer questions.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Patient Care in Radiography

Outcome 2

Describe the common patient care requirements of a Radiotherapy or Radiology department

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Characteristic signs and symptoms of adverse reaction to commonly encountered drugs including contrast media
- ◆ Effect of radiation reactions to skin, digestive and haematopoietic systems
- ◆ Care of patients with commonly encountered medical conditions
- ◆ Infection control

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ recognise and respond to a range of routine and emergency care needs of patients within a radiography department

Assessment guidelines

Outcomes 1 and 2 could be assessed through a case study based on a given scenario with short answer questions.

Outcome 3

Demonstrate safe moving and handling procedures and resuscitation (CPR)

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Basic ergonomics of moving and handling
- ◆ Moving and handling equipment
- ◆ Safe moving and handling of patients
- ◆ Safe moving and handling of equipment and inanimate objects
- ◆ Legislation applied to moving and handling
- ◆ First line emergency resuscitation procedures

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that:

- ◆ they can apply safe moving and handling mechanisms in their clinical workplace

Assessment guidelines

Outcome 3 will be assessed through a practical moving and handling examination and CPR using checklists consistent with current moving and handling and first aid legislation.

Administrative Information

Unit code: DW99 34
Unit title: Patient Care in Radiography
Superclass category: PH
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History of Changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

Source: SQA

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Patient Care in Radiography

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

It is expected that this Unit will be delivered making on-going reference to the candidates' work-place experiences and drawing on the group's knowledge of a variety of clinical settings.

Discussion groups, candidate presentations, role play and problem solving sessions would be useful in delivering the more theoretical parts of the Unit. The use of professional material including journals and internet sites should be encouraged. Practical aspects of the Unit should be practised and assessed in a realistic practical manner.

There is useful information to help with this Unit at the following web-sites:

www.sor.org (Society and College of Radiographers)

www.BIR.ac.uk (British Institute of Radiology)

and in the following professional journals:

Synergy
Radiography
Journal of Radiotherapy in Practice
Clinical Oncology
Clinical Radiology

Outcome 1

The candidate should understand their role as an assistant practitioner and the roles of others within the multidisciplinary team. They should be fully aware of issues related to:

- ◆ Quality control and safe practice including
- ◆ Procedures to protect the unborn child
- ◆ Patient identification and verbal consent
- ◆ Confidentiality including data protection
- ◆ Equality and discrimination
- ◆ Complaints and patient satisfaction

As these occur in their routine practice. They should also be aware of when to seek advice on these issues from registered staff.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Patient Care in Radiography

Outcome 2

Candidates should have a depth of knowledge and understanding of nursing management within the radiology department:

- ◆ Common adverse reactions to radiographic contrast agents, commonly encountered drugs and skin reactions to radiation.
- ◆ Patients attending with other conditions which may affect their care in the department (eg Stoma, tracheostomy care, diabetic, epileptic, asthmatic and disabled patients, those with heart pacemakers and the needs of parents and children in a radiography department).
- ◆ Infection management (eg sterile procedures and sterile trolleys, barrier/reverse barrier patient care and infection control including HIV, Aids, Hepatitis, MRSA).

Outcome 3

Candidates at the end of this Unit must have completed the usual mandatory training on safe moving and handling practice and first line resuscitation procedures. Many candidates will have completed this training prior to starting this course.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

Outcomes 1 and 2 could be assessed through a case study based on a given scenario with short answer questions.

The case study should include:

- ◆ Description of patient/medical history
- ◆ Clinical procedures undertaken
- ◆ Relevant quality procedures
- ◆ Professional approach to patient individuality/confidentiality
- ◆ Aspects of team-working

Outcome 3 will be assessed through a practical moving and handling and CPR examinations.

As suggested above the Unit should be delivered through a series of interactive lectures, discussions and practical workshops

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Working with Others at level 6 and Communication and Problem Solving at level 5 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Open learning

For information on normal open learning arrangements, please refer to the SQA guide *Assessment and Quality Assurance and Distance Learning* (SQA 2000).

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Patient Care in Radiography

Candidates with additional support needs

This Unit specification is intended to ensure that there are no artificial barriers to learning or assessment. The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance on Alternative Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs*, which is available on SQA's website: www.sqa.org.uk.

General information for candidates

Unit title: Patient Care in Radiography

This Unit prepares you to recognise the patient care requirements you may experience in your work place and equips you with the necessary knowledge and skills to provide first line assistance. You will learn how to care for yourself as well as others through the use of safe moving and handling mechanisms and to provide optimal patient care by working within a quality assurance framework.

As well as routine care needs you will also develop a knowledge base to equip you to provide emergency care for the seriously ill patient.

The Unit will also introduce you to the multidisciplinary team and allow you to find your place within that team, recognising the competencies, strengths and limitations of your own practice and the practice of other team members.

You will find useful information to help you with this Unit at the following web-sites:

www.sor.org (Society and College of Radiographers)

www.BIR.ac.uk (British Institute of Radiology)

and in the following professional journals:

Synergy
Radiography
Journal of Radiotherapy in Practice
Clinical Oncology
Clinical Radiology