

## National Unit Specification: general information

**UNIT** Medical Terms associated with Common Medical Conditions: An Introduction

**NUMBER** DC4J 11

### COURSE

### SUMMARY

This unit provides candidates with a basic knowledge and understanding of common medical conditions of major body systems. It is suitable for staff working within or towards a career in the health care sector.

### OUTCOMES

1. Use medical terms within the context of common medical conditions.
2. Use abbreviations within the context of common medical conditions.

### RECOMMENDED ENTRY

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, candidates would normally be expected to have some knowledge, understanding and skills relating to Biology. This could be demonstrated by candidates attaining:

- ◆ Standard Grade Biology with Knowledge and Understanding and Problem Solving at a minimum of Grade 4

**Or**

- ◆ Intermediate 1 Biology.

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### Administrative Information

**Superclass:** PE

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### **CREDIT VALUE**

0.5 credit at Intermediate 2 (3 SCOTCAT points at SCQF level 5\*).

*\*SCOTCAT 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 SCOTCAT points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

### **CORE SKILLS**

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components for this unit.

## **National Unit Specification: statement of standards**

**UNIT** Medical Terms associated with Common Medical Conditions: An Introduction

Acceptable performance in this unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to the Scottish Qualifications Authority.

### **OUTCOME 1**

Use medical terms within the context of common medical conditions.

#### **Performance criteria**

- a) Medical terms are defined correctly.
- b) Medical terms are used appropriately.
- c) Medical terms are spelled correctly.

#### **Evidence requirements**

Please refer to *Evidence requirements for the unit* at the end of the Statement of Standards.

### **OUTCOME 2**

Use abbreviations within the context of common medical conditions.

#### **Performance criteria**

- a) Abbreviations are used correctly.
- b) Abbreviations are defined correctly.

#### **Evidence requirements**

Please refer to *Evidence requirements for the unit* at the end of the Statement of Standards.

## **EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE UNIT**

### **Outcomes 1 and 2**

Outcomes 1 and 2 must be assessed by one or more case studies that cover all the above performance criteria for each of 3 body systems. The test should have a maximum score of 30 marks and should be of 45 minutes duration. A total of  $15 \pm 3$  marks should be allocated to each outcome.

Candidates achieving a minimum of score of 18 will be deemed to have achieved both outcomes.

## National Unit Specification: support notes

**UNIT** Medical Terms associated with Common Medical Conditions: An Introduction

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 20 hours.

### GUIDANCE ON THE CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT

#### *Outcomes 1 and 2*

Examples of common medical conditions which could be considered are:

**Gastrointestinal System:** indigestion; peptic ulcers (gastric and duodenal); inflammatory bowel disorders (Crohns and Ulcerative Colitis); Irritable Bowel Syndrome; gall stones.

**Breathing system:** asthma; Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease; bronchitis; emphysema; pneumonia; laryngitis; pharyngitis; sinusitis; lung cancer.

**Cardiovascular system:** angina; heart attack; heart failure; anaemias; thrombosis; hypertension; stroke; Transient Ischaemic Attacks; leukaemia.

**Urinary System:** cystitis; nephritis; prostatitis; renal failure.

**Nervous system:** meningitis; encephalitis; Multiple Sclerosis; Parkinson's disease; epilepsy.

**Endocrine system:** diabetes mellitus; hypothyroidism; hyperthyroidism; menopause.

**Skeletal and muscular system:** rheumatism; arthritis; osteoporosis.

#### *Medical terms should include:*

- a) Names of conditions and common investigations associated with these conditions.
- b) Medical terms related to the body systems using word roots:
  - i) with common suffixes, for example: =itis, -algia, -ectomy, -ostomy, -otomy, -osis, -oma, -iasis.
  - ii) with common prefixes, for example: a-, dys-, poly-, hyper-, hypo-, normo-, epi-.

- ◆ GI (gastrointestinal)
- ◆ DU (duodenal ulcer)
- ◆ PU (peptic ulcer)
- ◆ GU (gastric ulcer)
- ◆ UC (ulcerative colitis)
- ◆ N and V (nausea and vomiting)
- ◆ D and V (diarrhoea and vomiting)
- ◆ LFT (liver function test)
- ◆ NG (nasogastric)
- ◆ IBS (irritable bowel syndrome)

## National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

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- ◆ pO<sub>2</sub> (partial pressure of oxygen)
- ◆ pCO<sub>2</sub> (partial pressure of carbon dioxide)
- ◆ URTI (upper respiratory tract infection)
- ◆ CXR (chest x-ray)
- ◆ SOB (shortness of breath)
- ◆ CA (carcinoma)
- ◆ PEFr (peak expiratory flow rate)
- ◆ COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
  
- ◆ MI (myocardial infarction)
- ◆ DVT (deep vein thrombosis)
- ◆ ECG (electrocardiogram)
- ◆ BP (blood pressure)
- ◆ INR (international normalised ratio)
- ◆ Hb (haemoglobin)
- ◆ WCC (White cell count)
- ◆ RBCC (red blood count)
- ◆ FBC (full blood count)
- ◆ ESR (erythrocyte sedimentation rate)
- ◆ CV (cardiovascular)
- ◆ AF (atrial fibrillation)
- ◆ LVF (left ventricular failure)
- ◆ RVF (right ventricular failure)
- ◆ RBC (red blood cell)
- ◆ TIA (transient ischaemic attack)
  
- ◆ GU (genitourinary)
- ◆ U and Es (urea and electrolytes)
- ◆ UTI (urinary tract infection)
- ◆ GFR (glomerular filtration rate)
  
- ◆ EEG (electroencephalogram)
- ◆ LP (lumbar puncture)
- ◆ CNS (central nervous system)
- ◆ CSF (cerebrospinal fluid)
- ◆ CAT (computerised axial tomography)
- ◆ NMR (nuclear magnetic resonance)
- ◆ MRI (magnetic resonance imaging)
- ◆ MS (multiple sclerosis)
  
- ◆ GTT (glucose tolerance test)
- ◆ FSH (follicle stimulating hormone)
- ◆ LH (luteinising hormone)
- ◆ T<sub>4</sub> (thyroxine)
- ◆ TSH (thyroid stimulating hormone)

- ◆ Bx (biopsy)

## **National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)**

**UNIT**            Medical Terms associated with Common Medical Conditions: An Introduction

- ◆ OA (osteoarthritis)
- ◆ RA (rheumatoid arthritis)
- ◆ Fx (fracture)
  
- ◆ FH (family history)
- ◆ PMH (past medical history)

### **GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT**

The learning and teaching of common medical conditions for healthcare is most effective when concepts, principles, and theories are set in a relevant context e.g. by making reference to applications in healthcare settings.

Learning and teaching approaches should include lectures, individual and group work reinforced by handouts and worksheets. Worksheets should be designed to encourage students to use a range of textbooks and reference sources to access information. Information leaflets and videos could be used to reinforce teaching.

### **GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT**

It is recommended that Outcomes 1 and 2 are assessed by a single closed book test of 45 minutes duration with a cut off score of 60%.

### **SPECIAL NEEDS**

This unit specification is intended to ensure that there are no artificial barriers to learning or assessment. Special needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments or considering special alternative outcomes for units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance on Special Assessment Arrangements* (SQA, publication code AA0645).