MS935-40 Clinical Examination and Diagnostic Skills for Advanced Critical Care Practitioners

25/26

Department
Warwick Medical School
Level
Taught Postgraduate Level
Module leader
Laura Standing
Credit value
40
Module duration
26 weeks
Assessment
100% coursework
Study location
University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

Clinical examination and diagnostic skills for Advanced Critical Care Practitioners is a 40 credit module at level 7 which aims to equip critical care practitioners with an advanced level of practice. The module aims to provide the student with the theoretical underpinning for the acquisition of a range of skills and knowledge to support safe practice when undertaking clinical examination of patients and requesting/interpreting clinical investigations in a critical care setting.

Module web page

Module aims

The aim of the module is to provide the theoretical underpinning and practice base to enable the health care professional to undertake an advanced clinical examination. They will develop a range of skills and knowledge to support safe and effecxtive autonomous practice when requesting and interpreting clinical investigations. This will include patients presenting with undifferentiated and undiagnosed primary and secondary care conditions across the age and acuity spectrum

1. Critically evaluate the functional anatomy and altered pathophysiology of a range of body systems relevant to common conditions within critical care
2. Assimilate the information gained by taking a complete clinical history and synthesise salient points
3. Adapt a standard approach to performing a full systems clinical examination, providing reasoned rationale for the adaptive approach.
4. Critically appraise the patients presenting clinical features and formulate a reasoned and informed working and differential diagnosis.
5. Demonstrate the appropriate use of clinical investigations & diagnostics to assist in differential diagnosis and treatment of the patient within critical care
6. Provide a detailed plan of justified investigations and a treatment plan based on a critical appraisal of best evidence, appropriate to the patient's presenting complaint and fulfil professional requirements related to record keeping and documentation.
7. Critically appraise the advantages and limitations of clinical investigations in practice and relate this to best practice and current evidence
8. Develop critical appraisal skills in assimilating and synthesising patient variables in order to support autonomous practice and improve patient experience
9. Provide a detailed portfolio of autonomous practice, incorporating detailed case study incorporating critical appraisal of relevant literature and critical reflection on practice
10. Demonstrate a critical understanding of professional practice within the critical environment.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

1. An understanding of the key functional anatomy and physiology of the major body systems and related pathophysiological processes.
2. An understanding of the component parts of the consultation process in order to effectively manage patients with presenting with undifferentiated and undiagnosed problems within critical care.
3. Understand the practical elements to a top-to-toe physical examination and how to integrate this into the patient consultation , and be able to adapt this for the critically unwell patient.
4. An understanding of physiological changes associated with specific conditions / illnesses and the application of test results to the management of ill health
5. An understanding of the appropriate documentation and record keeping practices
6. An understanding of Professional body support for developing scope of practice (eg relevant accountability issues and ethics)
7. An understanding of the following investigations;
   Arterial Blood Gas Sampling & Interpretation
   Electrocardiographs
   Xray interpretation (chest, abdomen, pelvis and appendicular)
   Interpretation of blood results (haematology, biochemistry, microbiology)
   Lumbar puncture
   FUSIC
   Rotem, TEG

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Critically evaluate the functional anatomy and altered pathophysiology of a range of body systems relevant to common conditions within critical care
- Assimilate the information gained by taking a complete clinical history and synthesise salient points
- Adapt a standard approach to performing a full systems clinical examination, providing reasoned rationale for the adaptive approach
- Critically appraise the patients presenting clinical features and formulate a reasoned and informed working and differential diagnosis.
- Demonstrate the appropriate use of clinical investigations & diagnostics to assist in differential diagnosis and treatment of the patient within critical care
- Provide a detailed plan of justified investigations and a treatment plan based on a critical appraisal of best evidence, appropriate to the patient's presenting complaint and fulfil professional requirements related to record keeping and documentation.
- Critically appraise the advantages and limitations of clinical investigations in practice and relate this to best practice and current evidence
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Indicative reading list

Reading lists can be found in Talis

Subject specific skills

Critical care focus on the general approach to clinical consultation and diagnostics

Transferable skills

Students will develop the following transferable skills;
Critical thinking
Independent decision-making skills
Problem solving skills
Professional judgement to formulate and act on potential diagnoses

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Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	32 sessions of 1 hour (8%)
Seminars	15 sessions of 1 hour (4%)
Tutorials	6 sessions of 1 hour (2%)
Demonstrations	8 sessions of 1 hour (2%)
Practical classes	28 sessions of 1 hour (7%)
Other activity	21 hours (5%)
Private study	288 hours (72%)
Assessment	2 hours (0%)
Total	400 hours

Private study description

Self-directed learning – 290 hours to prepare for assessments (clinical portfolio and OSLER)

Other activity description

Structured learning on VLE – 20 hours
1 hour (remaining lecture and workshop hours combined)

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A

Assessment component	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
1 station OSLER	40%	1 hour	No

Reassessment component is the same

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Portfolio of practice	60%	1 hour	Yes (extension)

Clinical portfolio of evidence from own clinical practice. This will include 30 patient clinical summaries, with 40 Mini-Cex assessments, 10 CBDs with 5 x 850 word associated critical reflections spread across all clinical systems.

Completion of the clinical portfolio will demonstrate clinical skills, knowledge, communication, clinical reasoning, critical analysis and teamwork skills thereby meeting all learning outcomes.

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

OSLER assessments will be fed back on the day- face to face with individual students. Followed up with written feedback within 20 days
Portfolio will be marked and fed back within 20 days of submission as per feedback compliance deadlines
Feedback will follow WMS PGT masters learning and assessment domains utilising standardised feedback rubrics.

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of TMDS-B94B Postgraduate Taught Advanced Clinical Practice (Critical Care)
- Year 1 of TMDS-B91O Postgraduate Taught Advanced Critical Care Practice