Non-Medical Prescribing Courses

Non-Medical Prescribing courses at Worcester are accredited by the NMC, GPhC, HCPC. We offer part-time postgraduate (level 6 & 7) courses for Nurses, Pharmacists and Allied Health Professionals who meet the professional requirement to independently and supplementary prescribe from the BNF, BNF(C) and the NPF.

These courses sit within our BSc (Hons) Health Sciences top-up degree and Masters in Advancing Practice programmes, however they can be undertaken as stand-alone modules, leading to the professional qualifications:

- V300 Independent and Supplementary Prescriber for Nurses (Level 6)
- Independent and Supplementary Prescriber for Allied Health Professionals (Level 6)
- V300 Independent and Supplementary Prescriber for Nurses (Level 7)
- Independent and Supplementary Prescriber for Allied Health Professionals (Level 7)
- V150 Qualification to Independently Prescribe from the Community Prescribers Formulary
- Clinically Enhanced Practice Certificate in Pharmacist Independent Prescribing

Deadlines for Applications

HESC3020 - 4 August 2017 for the September 2017 intake, or 5 December 2017 for the January 2018 intake

HESC3021 - 5 December 2017 for the January 2018 intake

MSAP4021 - 4 August 2017 for the September 2017 intake, or 5 December 2017 for the January 2018 intake

MSAP4022 - 4 August 2017 for the September 2017 intake, or 5 December 2017 for the January 2018 intake

Fees for 2017/18

For HESC3020 (Level 6) degree modules: £1,740
For MSAP4021 (Level 7) master's modules: £1,800
For HESC3021 (Level 6) degree modules: £1,160
For MSAP4022/MSAP4080 (Level 7) modules: £2,400

Please contact in the first instance, your non-medical prescribing lead for information and possible funding of these courses.

How to Apply

1. Confirm you meet the professional entry requirements. See tabs for Nurses, Allied Health Professionals and Pharmacists.

2. Applicants must have a Designated Medical Practitioner (DMP) when applying and it is the responsibility of individual to secure one. Find out more about the Designated Medical Practitioner role.

Only apply once you have a DMP and when they have confirmed they are happy to support you.

3. Applicants must demonstrate competence in physical health assessment and diagnostics in their area of practice.

If you have not undertaken a health assessment, module you must provide evidence of your competence to diagnose in your specialist area to the module leader.

Your employer is responsible for agreeing that you have these skills before accessing the programme and would be required to verify this on your application form.

The University of Worcester provide two sources of support for skills for health assessment through either a 5-day workshop, which is not competency based, or a level 7 double award which includes competency based activity.

It may be pertinent to discuss which of these is more suitable with your manager. Please contact the module leader if you wish to discuss this further.

4. Confirm you are able to attend all the study days. These are stated on the flyer for the individual modules (see links above).

5. We ask that you please confirm that you have Professional Indemnity and/or Medical Malpractice insurance in place (either provided by your employer or through your own policy) that will provide cover for you.

Medical Malpractice (Clinical Negligence) insurance is required to cover you during your activities for treating or working with patients during the placements associated with this course. This policy must meet any claims that could arise from a patient who has allegedly been injured whilst being treated or attended to by yourself. The placements might take place either at your place of employment or third parties.

It may be pertinent to discuss which of these is more suitable with your manager. Please contact the module leader if you wish to discuss this further.

If you are not employed by a partner organisation (for definition see FAQs), in addition to the above, we will require a copy of your employer's Public and Employer Liability Insurance certificate.
6. You will need to have completed all the following documents:

- Application Form (except if you are a current University of Worcester student), including reference.
- Copies of qualification certificates referred to in your application, and ID – either a photocopy of your birth certificate or relevant page in passport
- Regional Application Form
- Consent form for Simulated Activities
- DBS Declaration of Good Character Form
- Insurance details (see point 5 above). Please provide the name of insurer, policy number, and date of expiry

7. Submit all the above to wblso@worc.ac.uk, for the attention of Lisa Band.

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### Consideration of Applications

Incomplete documentation may result in your application being delayed.

If the course is over-subscribed, selection will be made based on the date that both application forms (if appropriate) and your reference is received.

All applications are considered and interviews are arranged either by telephone or in person dependent on the information submitted.

The higher the number of applications we receive the longer it may take to inform you of the outcome. Upon receipt of a full application, required documentation and informal discussion with the Module Leader, we aim to inform you at least 3 weeks before the start of the module.

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### Nurses

V300 - a double (40 credit module) delivered at level 6 (HESC3020) and level 7 (MSAP4021) and jointly taught with Allied Health Prescribing Students in both semesters of the academic year (September to February and January to June).

For Nurses the V300 course consists of 26 study days over five months and 12 days learning in practice.

V150 - a double (40 credit) module delivered at level 6 (HESC3021) for Community Nurse Practitioners during the second semester of each academic year (January to June).

For the Community Practitioners the V150 course consists of 10 study days and 10 days learning in practice.

### Entry requirements

**NMC V300 entry requirements:**

- Current professional registration Parts 1 of the NMC Professional Register or registration with the HCPC.
- A minimum of 3 years post registration experience (or part time equivalent), the year preceding application to the programme must have been in the clinical field in which you intend to prescribe.
- Health assessment skills relevant to their area of practice
- Secured Designated Medical Practitioner
- Funding and Line Manager Approval
- A University Interview
- Current DBS Check

**NMC V150 entry requirements:**

- Current professional registration Parts 1 of the NMC Professional Register or registration with the HCPC.
- A minimum of 2 years post registration experience in their clinical area
- Recent evidence of level 6 study
- Health assessment skills relevant to their area of practice
- A Community Nurse Prescribing Practitioner Mentor who is on the active mentor register for your Trust
- Funding and Line Manager approval
- A University interview
- Current DBS Check
- For further details about the course content and qualifications needed, see the Nursing and Midwifery Council website

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### Allied Health Professionals

Including Podiatrists, Physiotherapists, Radiographers and Optometrists.

### Courses

Independent and Supplementary Prescribing – a double (40 credit) module delivered at level 6 (HESC3020) and level 7 (MSAP4021) and the AHP students are jointly taught with the Nurse Prescribing Students in both semesters of the academic year (September to February and January to June).

We also run the conversion course for Allied Health Professionals who have previously qualified as Supplementary Prescribers (Physiotherapists and Podiatrists) who now qualify and wish to become Independent Prescribers. Please contact the module leader for further information should you wish to access this course

### Entry Requirements

- Current professional registration Parts 1 of the NMC Professional Register or registration with the HCPC.
- A minimum of 3 years post registration experience (or part time equivalent), the year preceding application to the programme must have been in the clinical field in which you intend to prescribe.
- Health assessment skills relevant to their area of practice
- Secured Designated Medical Practitioner
- Funding and Line Manager Approval
- A University Interview
- Current DBS Check
Clinically Enhanced Pharmacist Independent Prescribing – this is a Post Graduate Certificate (60 credit) course, delivered at level 7 (MSAP4022) comprising of 12 face to face teaching and a further 6 days of clinical health assessment skills incorporated via a negotiated learning module (MSAP 4080). Pharmacists must also spend 90 hours learning in practice.

The course for Pharmacists is 18 study days (including 6 days’ clinical health assessment study days) and 90 hours learning in practice.

Entry requirements

For further details about the course content and qualifications needed, see the General Pharmaceutical Council website.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the difference between V150 (HESC3021 Independent Prescribing from the Community Practitioner Formulary) and V300 (HESC3020/MSAP4021 Non-Medical Prescribing)?

V150 – The V150 is the community practitioner qualification to prescribe from the Nurse Prescribers’ Formulary (NPF) specifically for non-specialist practitioners working in the community. It is the equivalent of the V100, which Specialist Practitioners undertake during their District Nurse or Health Visitor qualification. The NPF includes skin care products, wound dressings, continence products and catheters and limited analgesics.

V300 – Is the qualification for nurses, midwives and some Allied Health Professionals (Podiatrists, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Optometrists, and Radiographers) to prescribe within their area of competence from the full British National Formulary (BNF).

Who is my trust non-medical prescribing lead and why do I have to have their approval?

For local organisations please see below:

- Worcestershire Acute NHS Trust: Louise Pearson louise.pearson11@nhs.net
- Worcestershire Health & Care NHS Trust: Trish Cerrone patricia.cerrone@nhs.net; additional contact: Sharon Tallack, s.tallack@nhs.net
- Wye Valley NHS Trust: Sarah Price sarah.price@wvt.nhs.uk; additional contact Natasha Wallace Natasha.wallace1@nhs.net
- 2gether NHS Foundation Trust: Helen Elliott helen.elliott15@nhs.net
- South Worcestershire CCG: Lisa Levy lisa.levy@worcestershire.nhs.uk
- Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust: Helen Giles helen.giles@plos.nhs.uk
- Redditch/Bromsgrove/Wyre Forest CCG: Lin Allsopp linda.allsopp@worcestershire.nhs.uk
- Herefordshire CCG: Lynne Renton lynne.renton@herefordshireccg.nhs.uk; additional contact: Yvonne Coats yvonne.coats@herefordshireccg.nhs.uk
- Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Trust: Joanna Parry joanna1.parry@bhamcommunity.nhs.uk
- Birmingham & Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust: Nigel Barnes nigel.barnes@bsmhft.nhs.uk

We must have their approval, to ensure that the Trust is in agreement, that your role has a place for non-medical prescribing and it is covered within your job description.

Why do we need to complete all these forms?

The NMP role is a particularly responsible one that the NMC/HCPC require the University to give evidence of the proposed NMP’s good character, ability to undertake the course and subsequently prescribe safely and effectively.

What awards could I study for?

HESC3020 and HESC3021 can be used as part of the BSc (Hons) Health Sciences or as an individual award of Advanced Diploma Non-Medical Independent and Supplementary Prescribing, the academic credits from this module can only be used once. Please ensure you state which you would like to apply for on your application form. If you will be undertaking either of these modules as part of the BSc, the BSc programme leader, Alison Rushworth, or the BSc admissions tutor, Deborah Cook, will review your form to ensure that you meet the entry criteria.

HESC3020 or MSA4022 can be used as part of the MSc Advancing Practice or as a stand-alone module. If you will be undertaking MSA4021 as part of the MSc, the MSc programme leader, Amanda Evans, or the MSAP admissions tutor, Chris Clarke, will review your form as admissions tutor to ensure that you meet the entry criteria. When applying for the MSc Advancing Practice you will also need to state what award within MSc Advancing Practice you wish to do.

Why do I need to have studied at level 6 or have evidence of being capable of studying at level 6 for HESC3020 or HESC3021 or at level 7 for MSA4021 or MSA4022?

The NMP module is divided into 2 sections – practice and academic study in a relatively short period of time and to ensure the students have the best chance of success we ask for evidence of experience in both areas.

My role includes regular health assessments is this enough to meet the requirements?

Prescribing is not undertaken in isolation. Part of the process for a prescribing episode must be undertaking a holistic health assessment. If you have undertaken a course/workshop this will be of great benefit but if you have not we require your line manager and or referee to give assurance of your competency.

I cannot get on a health assessment course prior to the module commencing – can I undertake it after?

As above, we require your line manager and or referee to give assurance of your competency.

Does my Designated Medical Practitioner (DMP) have to be a medical doctor?

Yes – they must be registered with the GMC and be working in the same area of practice. This is a regulatory body requirement.

What does my DMP have to do?

Your DMP will be required to sign your competency document at the end of the course to say that you have shown capability to be an Independent and Supplementary Prescriber. You will also need to spend 50% (39 hours) of the total required clinical placement hours (78 hours, excluding breaks) with them. Your DMP will receive a guide when you start the course and the module team will arrange a tripartite visit during the course.
What is a partner organisation?

With regards to collecting insurance documentation, our partner organisations are as follows: Worcestershire Acute NHS Trust, Worcestershire Health & Care NHS Trust, Wye Valley NHS Trust, Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and 2gether NHS Foundation Trust. If you are employed by an organisation other than those listed, we will require a copy of your employer’s Public and Employer Liability Insurance certificate.

Contacts

MSAP Programme Lead: Amanda Evans
Pharmacist Module Lead: Amanda Evans
amanda.evans@worc.ac.uk

HESC Programme Lead: Alison Rushworth
V150 Module Lead: Alison Rushworth
a.rushworth@worc.ac.uk

V300, AHP & Conversion Course Module Lead: Emma Innes
e.ines@worc.ac.uk

Course Administrator: Michelle Brinkworth
m.brinkworth@worc.ac.uk

Teaching and Learning

The University places emphasis on enabling students to develop the independent learning capabilities that will equip you for lifelong learning and future employment, as well as academic achievement. A mixture of independent study, teaching and academic support through the personal academic tutoring system enables you to reflect on progress. You will build up a profile of skills, achievements and experiences that will enable you to flourish and be a successful Non-Medical Prescriber.

Teaching

You are taught through a combination of lectures, problem based learning (PBL) and interactive sessions. These sessions take a variety of formats and enable the application of understanding of topics covered in lectures. Blackboard is the virtual learning environment that supports the taught component with additional reading and activities available. In addition, copies of the lectures are uploaded to Blackboard in advance of sessions wherever possible.

In addition, meetings with personal academic tutors are scheduled on at least 4 occasions in the first year and three occasions in each of the other years of a course for students registered for the BSc or MSc. Module tutor support is available for those students who do not have a Personal Academic Tutor allocated.

Contact time

In a typical week at University, you will attend lectures from 9.30am-4.30pm. Within these weeks, there is allocation of protected learning time to support the wider reading required. Typically, class contact time will be structured around lectures and problem-based learning workshops.

Independent self-study

In addition to the contact time, you are expected to undertake around 11 hours of personal self-study per week. Typically, this will involve reading, reflection, collating evidence and consolidating learning for practical examinations.

A range of excellent learning facilities, including the Hive and library resources, the virtual learning environment, and extensive electronic learning resources, supports independent learning.

Teaching staff

You will be taught by a teaching team whose expertise and knowledge are closely matched to the content of the modules on the course. The team includes Emma Innes, Alison Rushworth, Amanda Evans, Professor Wilkie and Sherri-Ogston-Tuck. In addition to our staff, expert clinicians will provide external lectures to our students.

Teaching is based on research and consultancy; 100% per cent of course lecturers have a higher education teaching qualification or are Fellows of the Higher Education Academy. You can learn more about the staff by visiting our staff profiles.

Assessment

The course provides opportunities to test understanding and learning informally through the completion of practice or ‘formative’ assignments. The module has four formal 'summative' assessments at level 6 and 5 summative assessments at level 7, which are graded and count towards the overall module grade. To obtain registration with the HCPC or NMC, you must pass all summative assessments.

Assessment methods include a Numeracy Examination, Pharmacology Examination, Portfolio of Evidence including Competency document, and OSCE. In addition, Level 7 students need to complete a Seminar presentation.

Feedback

You will receive feedback on practice assessments and on formal assessments undertaken by coursework. Feedback on examination performance is available upon request from the module leader. Feedback supports learning and you are encouraged to discuss it with personal academic tutors and module tutors as appropriate.

We aim to provide you with feedback on formal course work assessments within 20 working days of hand-in.