

Please find below the latest edition of our Advanced Practice Programme Newsletter. We would appreciate if this could be circulated widely with your colleagues.

Department of Nursing and Midwifery, University of the Highlands and Islands



Advanced Practice Programme Newsletter

Advanced Nurse Practitioner and Advanced Professional Practice – May 2021



Welcome to the fifth edition of the Advanced Practice programme newsletter. In this edition we share some news, key dates and information about available educational provision.

As we reach the end of the Spring semester in 2021 it is great to see so many students successfully completing their modules and programme despite the work challenges encountered over the past year. It is heartening that we are all now becoming increasingly focused on the future Recovery and Renewal strategies as we hopefully move through the difficult phases of the pandemic and look ahead. This process of looking ahead also relates to the future of our modules and programmes as we contribute to both the immediate and longer-term education needs of healthcare professionals. We have also adapted and learnt about more effective and flexible ways of programme delivery and student engagement.

Recently, the MSc Advanced Nursing Practitioner/Advanced Professional Practice went

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through a successful reapproval event in the University where we were able to identify many of these successful initiatives and importantly highlight strong partnership working with clinical colleagues. In total 4 commendations for the programme were identified. These included: 1) strong working relationship with clinical partners at regional and local level to ensure the clinical currency of the programme; 2) the clinically focused nature of the programme for integrating theory into practice and improving patient outcomes; 3) the quality improvement dissertation, which aligns with NHS plans for quality improvement, and its potential impact in terms of patient outcomes; and 4) the commitment to students and adaptability and resilience of staff during the pandemic. We would like to thank all those who participated in the approval event and especially the students and clinical partners.

For any further details about the programmes please contact [Neil Angus](#), Head of Postgraduate Studies

Key Dates

18th June 2021

Closing date for ANP / APP / MSc Programme Applications

[Apply Here](#)

2nd July 2021

All students who are undertaking NMP module in Semester 1 must have submitted all necessary documentation by this date.

26th October 2021

Next deadline for RPL applications

New Applicant Deadline

18
JUNE

The closing date for new applicants wishing to commence study in August/September 2021 is **Friday 18th June 2021**.

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Programme and Application details are available from the [Advanced Nurse Practitioner / Professional Practice MSc webpage](#).

Alumni Discount on Tuition Fees

A 10% discount on the tuition fee for all [taught postgraduate courses](#) is available for alumni of the university who have graduated with an ordinary or honours degree. [Alumni benefits - Discount on taught postgraduate courses \(uhi.ac.uk\)](#).

Programme Information

Developed in partnership with expert clinical partners, and taught by subject experts, these programmes will equip nurses, midwives and allied health professionals to lead and deliver advanced healthcare for their client groups.

To qualify as an Advanced Nurse Practitioner the following 3 modules are core to the programme :

1. [Clinical reasoning, judgement and decision-making](#) (20 credits) *
2. [Non-medical prescribing \(NMP\)](#) (40 credits) *
3. [Clinical assessment for advanced practice](#) (40 credits)

The programme also includes a range of other modules including:

4. [Assessing Incapacity: legal and ethical frameworks for professional practice](#) (20 credits)*

5. [Expertise in dementia practice](#) (20 credits) *
6. [Professional leadership and resilience](#) (20 credits)
7. [Improvement science: enhancing quality in health and social care](#) (20 credits)
8. [Complexities of care in multi-morbidity](#) (20 credits)
9. [Understanding research in evidence-based practice](#) (20 credits)
10. [Minor Injuries: assessment and management](#) (20 credits) *
11. [Quality Improvement Dissertation](#) (60 credits) *
12. [Applying Research Skills for Clinical Impact Dissertation](#) (60 credits) *

Note:

* **Starred modules are those available in Semester 1 (Aug/Sept 2021).**

[Further information about the programme.](#)

Module Feature: Clinical Assessment for Advanced Practice (CAAP)

The Clinical Assessment for Advanced Practice (CAAP) module is a 40 credit core module in the Advanced Nurse Practitioner/Professional Practice MSc. This year we welcomed [Jackie Matthew](#) and [Fiona Young](#) to the CAAP teaching team and have valued their clinical knowledge and expertise from their advanced clinical practice roles in NHS Highland. Social distancing measures introduced since the COVID-19 pandemic have significantly impacted on methods of teaching, learning and assessment in Higher Education Institutions. Last academic year the CAAP team successfully piloted Virtual-OSCEs using Near Me as part of module assessment. We have continued to innovate this academic year to support our students. To complement existing on-line resources, we have used digital technology to deliver synchronous virtual classrooms and seminars, these are recorded to enable students to revisit later. We have also used digital technology to support remote clinical assessment skills teaching. Online synchronous teaching now spans the entire semester offering continued student support. These flexible teaching approaches have enabled almost 40 students from five different Scottish health board areas to participate in the CAAP module this year. Accepting the limits placed by COVID-19 on the clinical practice component of this current module we have recognised the contribution of simulated practice and have sought opportunities to align with existing NHS advanced clinical assessments tools. The module team have reviewed and redesigned the clinical portfolio submission for 2021/22. We have revised clinical supervision requirements to 90 hours, thus making this comparable with other 40 credit modules within the ANP programme.



[Dr Clare Carolan](#), Module Lead, Clinical Assessment for Advanced Practice (CAAP)

Post MSc Advanced Nurse Practitioner - Marina Maciver

I am an ANP from the Isle of Lewis working in General Practice in Stornoway. I divide my time between clinical practice and my role as a research nurse for UHI. I recently completed the MSc Advanced Nurse Practitioner at UHI, which gave me the foundation to work as an ANP in the community. I received the QNIS postgraduate academic award on completion of the MSc. My dissertation looked at the prehospital use of early warning scores in the detection of patients with sepsis. I have recently published a systematic review in the British Journal of Community Nursing that demonstrated the successful utilisation of EWS in the prehospital setting, in predicting those patients most at risk of deterioration and as a useful tool in assisting decision-making.

In my role as a research nurse, I am currently working on the Covid Health Adherence Research in Scotland (CHARIS) project, alongside researchers from both UHI and the University of Aberdeen, investigating the effects of the COVID-19 vaccine programme on adherence to transmission-reducing behaviours.

Marina Maciver



The RCN Foundation Education Grants



The RCN Foundation has opened its spring round of education and career development grants. These grants aim to support those involved in nursing and midwifery to develop their careers and enhance the care they give to patients. They can be used to undertake undergraduate degrees, postgraduate qualifications and professional training.

The RCN Foundation is an independent charity, and nursing and midwifery staff do not have to be an RCN member to receive their support. The education grants are for up to £5,000 and open to nurses, nursing associates, midwives and health care support workers who will begin their study between 01 September 2021 and 01 September 2022. Closing date is 31 May 2021.

For further information please visit: [Spring Grants Round Now Open | Royal College of Nursing \(rcn.org.uk\)](https://rcn.org.uk/education-grants). To apply please visit <https://rcnfoundation.rcn.org.uk/apply-for-funding/educational-grants>.

Meet your Module Leaders

- [Neil Angus](#)
- [Michelle Beattie](#)
- [Clare Carolan](#)
- [Graham Geddes](#)
- [Trish Gorely](#)
- [Jonathan Gray](#)
- [Gill Hubbard](#)
- [Michael McPhee](#)
- [Leah Macaden](#)
- [Jackie Matthew](#)
- [Annetta Smith](#)
- [Fiona Young](#)

If you would like to submit any news items or articles for the next issue of the newsletter, please email nursing.admin@uhi.ac.uk.

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