PMSC20012 *Primary Healthcare 1*

Term 1 - 2023

Profile information current as at 12/10/2024 07:05 pm

All details in this unit profile for PMSC20012 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student).The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview

This unit provides you with the knowledge and management strategies for functioning as a paramedic with a primary healthcare focus. This unit lays out the foundations of recognition and management of patients with common chronic and low acuity disease states through a detailed examination of the pathophysiology, epidemiology, history and assessment findings. You will be able to formulate a clinical diagnosis by incorporating presentation, history, assessment, diagnostic studies and other findings using an analytic approach and then utilise evidenced-based medicine for the management of a patient's condition. Additionally, the unit introduces you to palliative care and the paramedic practitioner's role in its delivery.

Details

Career Level: *Postgraduate*
Unit Level: *Level 9*
Credit Points: *12*
Student Contribution Band: *8*
Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: *0.25*

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

There are no requisites for this unit.
Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework).

Offerings For Term 1 - 2023

- Online

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes – in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Website

This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 12-credit Postgraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 25 hours of study per week, making a total of 300 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

Regional Campuses
Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

Metropolitan Campuses
Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. **Written Assessment**
Weighting: 40%
2. **Presentation**
Weighting: 30%
3. **Written Assessment**
Weighting: 30%

Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the University's Grades and Results Policy for more details of interim results and final grades.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the CQUniversity Policy site.
You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the CQUniversity Policy site.

Unit Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Differentiate between common chronic and low acuity disease states based on pathophysiology, epidemiology, risk factors, signs and symptoms
2. Integrate diagnostic findings with patient presentation, history and assessment to formulate a working diagnosis
3. Employ an analytic approach using evidence-based medicine and guidelines for the management of primary care conditions
4. Describe the primary care paramedic's role in the delivery of palliative care.

A Graduate Diploma is now the standard requirement for many state ambulance services for advanced positions in the paramedic field. An emphasis has been placed on preferred candidates exceeding this requirement with a Masters degree for many new positions such as the Paramedic Practitioner.

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes

— N/A Level | • Introductory Level | • Intermediate Level | • Graduate Level | ∘ Professional Level | ∘ Advanced Level

Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
1 - Knowledge	∘	∘	∘	∘
2 - Communication		∘		∘
3 - Cognitive, technical and creative skills	∘	∘	∘	
4 - Research	∘		∘	∘
5 - Self-management				∘
6 - Ethical and Professional Responsibility		∘	∘	∘
7 - Leadership		∘	∘	∘
8 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures				

Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Graduate Attributes

Assessment Tasks	Graduate Attributes							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1 - Written Assessment - 40%	∘	∘	∘	∘		∘	∘	
2 - Presentation - 30%	∘	∘	∘	∘		∘	∘	
3 - Written Assessment - 30%	∘	∘		∘	∘	∘	∘	

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

There are no required textbooks.

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: Harvard (author-date)
For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Natalee Williams-Claassen Unit Coordinator
n.williams-claassen@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 06 Mar 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Disease states of the eyes, ears, nose and throat		

Week 2 - 13 Mar 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Disease states of the respiratory and cardiovascular systems		

Week 3 - 20 Mar 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Disease states of the central nervous system and mental health		

Week 4 - 27 Mar 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Disease states of the gastrointestinal and urinary systems		

Week 5 - 03 Apr 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Communicable diseases, infections and allergies		

Vacation Week - 10 Apr 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Week 6 - 17 Apr 2023		
Module/Topic	**Chapter**	**Events and Submissions/Topic**
Diabetes and Skin disorders		**Case Report** Due: Week 6 Thursday (20 Apr 2023) 11:45 pm AEST
Week 7 - 24 Apr 2023		
Module/Topic	**Chapter**	**Events and Submissions/Topic**
Disease states of the musculoskeletal system		
Week 8 - 01 May 2023		
Module/Topic	**Chapter**	**Events and Submissions/Topic**
Wounds		
Week 9 - 08 May 2023		
Module/Topic	**Chapter**	**Events and Submissions/Topic**
Palliative Care		**Presentation** Due: Week 9 Thursday (11 May 2023) 11:45 pm AEST
Week 10 - 15 May 2023		
Module/Topic	**Chapter**	**Events and Submissions/Topic**
Palliative Care		
Week 11 - 22 May 2023		
Module/Topic	**Chapter**	**Events and Submissions/Topic**
Catch up week		
Week 12 - 29 May 2023		
Module/Topic	**Chapter**	**Events and Submissions/Topic**
Pain Management		**Essay** Due: Week 12 Thursday (1 June 2023) 11:45 pm AEST
Review/Exam Week - 05 Jun 2023		
Module/Topic	**Chapter**	**Events and Submissions/Topic**
Exam Week - 12 Jun 2023		
Module/Topic	**Chapter**	**Events and Submissions/Topic**

Assessment Tasks

1 Case Report

Assessment Type
Written Assessment

Task Description
In this assessment, you are required to discuss a patient with a common chronic or low acuity disease state that you have attended and treated as a paramedic.
The case report must include the following:
• A description of the patient's initial presentation, key history, and physical assessment findings
• Discussion on further diagnostic tests that could have been utilised in the formulation of a diagnosis for this patient as a paramedic with a primary healthcare focus, justified with supporting evidence.
• The possible differential diagnoses for this patient’s condition.
• Discussion on each of these possible diagnoses’ pathophysiology, epidemiology, risk factors, and signs and symptoms.
• Formulate the most likely working diagnosis for this patient, justified with supporting evidence.

Assessment Due Date
Week 6 Thursday (20 Apr 2023) 11:45 pm AEST

Return Date to Students
Week 8 Friday (5 May 2023)

Weighting
40%

Minimum mark or grade
50%

Assessment Criteria
The case report will be assessed in accordance with the rubric and information provided on the unit's Moodle page. The following criteria are key points to be included:
• The written assessment should be presented in an essay format
• The written assessment must address each of the main topic tasks as detailed in the task description
• Avoid superficial points or comments and be clear and concise
• As this is a written assessment, you must include in-text referencing and a reference list.
There is a minimum word count requirement of 3000 words and a maximum of 3500 words.
The case report is worth 40% of your overall unit mark.

Referencing Style

- Harvard (author-date)

Submission
Online

assessmentOutcome

- Differentiate between common chronic and low acuity disease states based on pathophysiology, epidemiology, risk factors, signs and symptoms
- Integrate diagnostic findings with patient presentation, history and assessment to formulate a working diagnosis

assessmentGradAttribute

- Knowledge
- Communication
- Cognitive, technical and creative skills
- Research
- Ethical and Professional Responsibility
- Leadership

2 Presentation

Assessment Type
Presentation

Task Description
During your career as a paramedic, you would have experienced call-outs to patients with common chronic or low acuity disease states that may have required medical assistance, though not at an emergency care level. In most cases these patients are unnecessarily transported to a hospital's emergency department (ED) for a non-acute condition, increasing the clinical demand on EDs and patient waiting periods.
Paramedics with a primary healthcare focus have the potential to reduce unnecessary transportation and the burden on emergency departments by treating these patients within their communities or at home (Legislative Council of Western Australia - Public Administration Committee 2021)
In this assessment, you are required to create a recorded presentation of a clinical case that you have treated and transported as a paramedic. This patient would have a working diagnosis of common chronic or low acuity disease.
Your presentation must include the following:
• A brief introduction to the case
• The patient's initial presentation, key history, and physical assessment findings
• A working diagnosis with supporting evidence
• Reflection on the management that was provided on scene and en route to the hospital
• Discussion on a revised assessment plan, including further diagnostic tests, that could have been utilised in the formulation of a diagnosis for this patient as a paramedic with a primary healthcare focus
• Discussion on the clinical management plan for this patient as a paramedic with a primary healthcare focus, justified by the inclusion of evidence-based medicine and primary care management guidelines.
All medical practices discussed must employ an analytic approach and be justified with supporting evidence.

Reference
Legislative Council of Western Australia - Public Administration Committee 2021, *The delivery of ambulance services in Western Australia*, viewed 24 January 2023, https://www.parliament.wa.gov.au/Parliament/commit.nsf/luInquiryPublicSubmissions/C4EA99506073093348258772002 79933/$file/099%20Ray%20Bange.pdf

Assessment Due Date
Week 9 Thursday (11 May 2023) 11:45 pm AEST

Return Date to Students
Week 10 Friday (19 May 2023)

Weighting
30%

Minimum mark or grade
50%

Assessment Criteria
The presentation will be assessed in accordance with the rubric and information provided on the unit's Moodle page. The following criteria are key points to be included:
•The presentation should be in a PowerPoint format. An alternative may be approved after consultation with the Unit Coordinator.
•Recorded narration is required and you can use the Notes section to detail your thinking
•The presentation must address each of the main topic tasks as detailed in the task description
•Avoid superficial points or comments
•As this is a presentation, you should include images where appropriate, but these must be referenced.
The presentation has no specified length in regards to the number of slides used but the recorded presentation should be approximately twenty (20) minutes in length.
This presentation is worth 30% of your overall unit mark.

Referencing Style

- Harvard (author-date)

Submission
Online

assessmentOutcome

- Integrate diagnostic findings with patient presentation, history and assessment to formulate a working diagnosis
- Employ an analytic approach using evidence-based medicine and guidelines for the management of primary care conditions

assessmentGradAttribute

- Knowledge
- Communication
- Cognitive, technical and creative skills
- Research
- Ethical and Professional Responsibility
- Leadership

3 Essay

Assessment Type
Written Assessment

Task Description
"The goal of palliative care is to improve the quality of life of patients with an active, progressive disease that has little or no prospect of a cure. With the growth and aging of Australia's population and an increase of chronic and generally incurable illnesses, the types of patient groups requiring palliative care has widened." (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2022).
Discuss the present and possible future role of a paramedic with a primary healthcare focus in the delivery of palliative care for patients that are terminally ill within the Australian context.
Please include the following in your discussion:
• The role of a paramedic with a primary healthcare focus in direct patient care (assessment, goals of care, care towards the patient, family and carers, physical, cultural and psychosocial, etc.)
• The role of a paramedic with a primary healthcare focus in indirect patient care and collaboration with other medical

professionals (multidisciplinary teams, specialist and community support services involvement, referral, etc.)
• Ethical Considerations
• Advanced healthcare planning and directives
• End-of-life communication.

Reference

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2022, *Palliative care services in Australia*, viewed 24 January 2023, https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/palliative-care-services/palliative-care-services-in-australia/contents/summary

Assessment Due Date
Week 12 Thursday (1 June 2023) 11:45 pm AEST

Return Date to Students
Exam Week Friday (16 June 2023)

Weighting
30%

Minimum mark or grade
50%

Assessment Criteria
The essay will be assessed in accordance with the rubric and information provided on the unit's Moodle page. The following criteria are key points to be included:
• The written assessment should be presented in an essay format
• The written assessment must address each of the main topic tasks as detailed in the task description
• Avoid superficial points or comments and be clear and concise
• As this is a written assessment, you must include in-text referencing and a reference list.
There is a minimum word count of 3000 words and a maximum word count of 3500 words.
This written assessment is worth 30% of your overall unit mark.

Referencing Style

- Harvard (author-date)

Submission
Online

assessmentOutcome

- Describe the primary care paramedic's role in the delivery of palliative care.

assessmentGradAttribute

- Knowledge
- Communication
- Research
- Self-management
- Ethical and Professional Responsibility
- Leadership

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the **Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure**. This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?
A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?
A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?
For academic advice and guidance, the Academic Learning Centre (ALC) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?

Be Honest
If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own

Seek Help
If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)

Produce Original Work
Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem