MODULE SPECIFICATION

KEY FACTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module name</th>
<th>Principles of Prescribing - Module 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module code</td>
<td>OVM051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>School of Health Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department or equivalent</td>
<td>Division of Optometry and Visual Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK credits</td>
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MODULE SUMMARY

Module outline and aims

The Department of Optometry and Visual Science at City University has been providing modular postgraduate training in ocular therapeutics for over 15 years. The purpose of this training has been to provide the theoretical knowledge and clinical skills to enable optometrists to manage ocular disease within the context of the legal and regulatory framework provided by the Opticians Act and relevant medicines legislation.

Candidates entering the full independent prescribing (IP) programme will complete a three module scheme (module 1 - Principles of Therapeutics, module 2 - Principles of Prescribing and module 3 - IP) and complete the requisite clinical placement days. Candidates may opt to exit after modules 1 and 2 (following completion of a clinical placement) and qualify as an Additional Supply (AS) optometrist by taking the College of Optometrists’ Common Final Assessment (CFA) in AS. Alternatively, modules can be taken as stand alone modules as part of the postgraduate programme in Clinical Optometry.

Each University module constitutes 15 level 7 academic credits and will be integrated into our modular postgraduate programme in clinical optometry. An APEL arrangement will be used to import postgraduate credits from the clinical placement aspect of the CFA to allow students qualifying in IP to be awarded a Postgraduate Certificate in Therapeutic Prescribing (PGCTP).

Completion of this module (Principles of Therapeutics - module 1 of the AS/IP programme) in addition to modules 2 (Principles of Prescribing) and 3 (IP) will enable optometrists to be entered onto a specialist optometry GOC register for therapeutic prescribing. The first element of this prescribing route is termed AS. The rationale behind AS is to provide optometrists with access to those medicines which will allow them to manage a number of common non-sight threatening disorders including: infective conjunctivitis, allergic conjunctivitis, blepharitis, dry eye and superficial injury. These medicines can be sold or supplied by the optometrist directly to the patient in an emergency, or routinely obtained by the patient from the pharmacist, against a written order signed by the optometrist.

The second element of the prescribing training is IP. Qualified independent prescribers will take responsibility for the clinical assessment of a patient, establish a diagnosis and
determine the clinical management required, including prescribing where necessary. The training for IP encompasses the AS and Supplementary Prescribing (SP) specialities. Trainees complete all three modules and modules 1 and 2 are common to the AS route.

Content outline

The emphasis in Principles of Prescribing is on:
History taking and examination techniques Clinical management guidelines Management of specific ocular conditions (particularly using ‘AS’ exemptions) Evidence-based practice and clinical governance in relation to prescribing Prescribing safely and professionally
On this module you will learn about:
Recent developments in drug legislation for optometrists History taking and methods of ocular examination Dry eye Lid margin disease Management of infective keratitis and conjunctivitis Management of allergic conjunctivitis Pharmacology of AS medicines Management of superficial injury Differential diagnoses of sight threatening eye disease Prescribing in at risk groups Adverse drug reactions and interactions Resources to support therapeutic practice Record keeping Professional codes of practice/ Patient confidentiality Medicines and the Law Prescription writing/signed orders Public health policy in relation to prescribing Compliance and concordance Confidentiality and data protection Clinical governance Clinical audit /improving prescribing practice

Pre-requisite Modules
OVM050    Principles of Therapeutics (Module 1)

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

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

Knowledge and understanding:

- Demonstrate a detailed knowledge of the presentation, clinical features, management and natural course of specific ocular conditions
- Demonstrate an understanding of the legal basis and policy framework for prescribing
- Demonstrate an understanding of clinical governance in relation to prescribing
- Demonstrate an awareness of professional and regulatory codes of practice in
relation to AS/IP level 2 exemptions

- Demonstrate an ability to take a comprehensive medical history and examine the eye using appropriate instrumentation and clinical techniques

- Demonstrate an ability to identify the nature and severity of the presenting condition and generate an appropriate management plan

Skills:

- Exercise and further develop the analytical skills required for the analysis of a patient with an ocular problem

- Interpret and critically review research pertaining to ocular abnormalities in order to review current standards

- Demonstrate analytical and problem-solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical situations

- Demonstrate an ability to differentially diagnose sight-threatenining from non sight-threatening eye disease an awareness of personal responsibility and professional codes of conduct in relation to referral

- Adapt your existing skills and interpret clinical results obtained appropriately and safely

- Advance your own knowledge and understanding and develop your skills to a high level

- Critically evaluate sources of information, advice and decision support in prescribing practice, taking into account current evidence based practice

- Refer patients with ocular abnormalities appropriately for further investigations (if required)

- Take a comprehensive medical history and examine the eye using appropriate instrumentation and clinical techniques

- Operate in a complex and unpredictable environment with an overview of the issues governing best practice

- Show an awareness of your own limitations and an ability to practise within a framework of professional accountability and responsibility and demonstrate a reflective approach in the review and development of prescribing practice

- Critically apply your knowledge of pharmacology to prescribing practice

- Demonstrate an ability to monitor the response to treatment and modify the management plan or refer if necessary
**Values and attitudes:**

- Show an appropriate professional attitude towards patients and colleagues
- Show an awareness of ethical practice

**HOW WILL I LEARN?**

The module is mainly didactic in learning. The module runs over three days with at least 21 hours of teaching, comprising of lectures. You will be given comprehensive notes at the beginning of the module to facilitate learning.

*Teaching pattern:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teaching component</th>
<th>Teaching type</th>
<th>Contact hours (scheduled)</th>
<th>Self-directed study hours (independent)</th>
<th>Placement hours</th>
<th>Total student learning hours</th>
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<td>Lectures</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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<td>129</td>
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<td><strong>21</strong></td>
<td><strong>129</strong></td>
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**WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?**

*Assessments*

The theoretical content of Principles of Prescribing will be assessed via a written examination and a practical skills assessment. Each component has a pass mark of 50%.

The assessment consists of:

- Short answer questions (SAQs) (which requires you to answer a question in one or two sentences)
- Practical skills assessment (which tests your ability to examine patients and discuss observations and management options)

*Assessment pattern:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment component</th>
<th>Assessment type</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Minimum qualifying mark</th>
<th>Pass/Fail?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OSCE</td>
<td>Written Exam</td>
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<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Practical skills assessment</td>
<td>Practical skills assessment</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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Assessment Criteria

Assessment Criteria are descriptions, based on the intended learning outcomes, of the skills, knowledge or attitudes that you need to demonstrate in order to complete an assessment successfully, providing a mechanism by which the quality of work can be measured. Grade-Related Criteria are descriptions of the level of skills, knowledge or attributes that you need to demonstrate in order achieve a certain grade or mark in an assessment, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured and placed within the overall set of marks. Assessment Criteria and Grade-Related Criteria will be made available to you to support you in completing assessments. These will be provided on the virtual learning environment or attached to a specific assessment task.

Feedback on assessment

Feedback will be provided in line with our Assessment and Feedback Policy. For end of module examinations or an equivalent significant task, feedback will normally be provided within four weeks of the submission deadline or assessment date. In the case of smaller pieces of work you will normally be provided with feedback within three weeks. This would normally include a provisional grade or mark. The timescale for feedback on final year projects or dissertations may be longer. The full policy can be found at: https://www.city.ac.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0008/68921/assessment_and_feedback_policy.pdf

Assessment Regulations

The Pass mark for each module is 50%. Where the module requires more than one assessment, the contribution of each to the final mark is stated in the module specification.

In the event of a fail mark being awarded, the following will apply

Resit: You will normally be offered one resit attempt. However, if you did not participate in the first assessment and have no extenuating circumstances, you may not be offered a resit.

If you are successful in the resit, you shall be awarded the credit for that module. The mark used for the purpose of calculation towards your Award shall be calculated from the original marks for the component(s) that you passed at first attempt and the minimum pass mark for the component(s) for which you took a resit.

If you do not satisfy your resit by the date specified you will not progress and the Assessment Board shall require that you withdraw from the Programme.

If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at City, please see the full version of the Assessment Regulations at: http://www.city.ac.uk/__data/assets/word_doc/0003/69249/s19.doc
INDICATIVE READING LIST

Those with * indicate important reference texts.

Anatomy and Physiology

Microbiology/Immunology

Pharmacology

Ocular Disease

Prescribing

Clinical Knowledge (College of Optometrists)

The National Prescribing Centre produces useful information including competency frameworks, guides to practice and resources to help healthcare professionals understand prescribing matters. The NPC also organises study days and conferences to update practitioners. The web address is: [www.npc.co.uk](http://www.npc.co.uk)

The National Electronic Library for Medicines includes a web page on Patient Group Directions on which a centrally maintained archive of approved PGDs can be found. Visit [www.druginfozone.nhs.org.uk](http://www.druginfozone.nhs.org.uk)

Version: 2.0
Version date: July 2014
For use from: 2014-15

**Appendix:**

<table>
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<th>CODES</th>
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<th>Description</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B510</td>
<td>The study of the principles and techniques for examining, diagnosing and treating conditions of the human visual system</td>
<td>100</td>
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