MODULE SPECIFICATION

KEY FACTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module name</th>
<th>Independent Prescribing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module code</td>
<td>OVM053</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 Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK credits</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECTS</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level</td>
<td>7</td>
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MODULE SUMMARY

The Department of Optometry and Visual Science at City, University of London 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.

The independent prescribing (IP) module builds on the strengths of the existing therapeutics courses: OVM050 (Principles of Therapeutics) and OVM051 (Principles of Prescribing) are approved by the GOC as part of the Additional Supply (AS)/IP programme. Module 3 (Independent Prescribing) is a stand-alone conversion module for those that have passed the College of Optometrists’ Common Final Assessment (CFA) in AS or Supplementary Prescribing (SP) or satisfy certain criteria in addition to completing OVM050 and OVM051 of the prescribing training. Candidates entering the full IP programme will complete the three module scheme (i.e., Principles of Therapeutics, Principles of Prescribing and Independent Prescribing). Each University module constitutes 15 M level academic credits and will be integrated into our modular postgraduate programme in clinical optometry. An RPEL 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 or use the credits towards a Diploma or MSc.

This module aims to provide you with:
- the necessary training in the theory and practice of independent prescribing
- the ability to develop and consolidate skills in the assessment, diagnosis and management of common ophthalmic conditions
  the ability to recognise and appropriately manage sight-threatening disease.

Content outline

On this module you will learn about:
- Pharmacology of systemic drugs
- Evaluation and management of prescribing risks
- Adverse drug reactions and interactions/Comparison of drug resources
- Information systems and clinical decision-making support tools
- Prescribing in at risk groups/Medicines management
- How to develop clinical management plans in supplementary/independent
WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

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

Knowledge and understanding:

- Show effective advanced clinical decision making in primary care and glaucoma
- Demonstrate a detailed understanding of how the body processes systemically administered medicines and an in-depth understanding of prescribing in at risk groups
- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the legal basis and policy framework for supplementary and independent prescribing and possess a detailed understanding of the optometrists role as a supplementary/independent prescriber
- Critically interpret and apply the principles of clinical governance to supplementary/independent prescribing
- Have a critical awareness of professional codes of practice in relation to optometrist prescribing
- Demonstrate an ability to develop a patient-specific clinical management plan in the context of a prescribing partnership.

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-threatening from non sight threatening eye disease and 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
HOW WILL I LEARN?

It is well-established that adult learners learn best in smaller groups and with greater interaction. The module is therefore designed using a blended learning approach so that we can use the most appropriate teaching methods: the first day is delivered online using our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) called Moodle. This allows you to study the background materials in your own time and as needed. This flexible approach also reduces time away from your practice with all of its cost implications. However, it is very important that you have significant face to face learning and so the remainder of the module is taught in didactic sessions of up to 32 students with the addition of group work and case discussions. All lecturers are experts and encourage questions and discussion during their teaching. Some will also include specific interaction sessions to encourage critical thinking and to allow you put what you have learnt into practice. Practical sessions work in groups of about 5/6 allowing you some hands-on experience and the chance to ask in-depth questions. Finally, virtual case discussions allow group discussion about specific cases.

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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online materials</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lectures, practical classes and workshops and</td>
<td>Lectures</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>120</td>
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WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?

Assessments

The theoretical content of Independent Prescribing will be assessed via two written examinations.

Assessment 1: consists of key feature problems (KFs) (which tests clinical decision making using patient presentations, followed by a series of MCQs) and patient management case scenarios (which test your ability to analyse clinical results and manage patients appropriately)

Assessment 2: consists of multiple choice questions (MCQ) (covering all aspects of the module) and short answer questions (SAQ) (which requires you to answer a question in one or two sentences).

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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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KF &amp; PMCS exam</td>
<td>Written Exam</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCQ and SAQ exam</td>
<td>Written Exam</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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
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.

If you are successful in the resit, you will be awarded the credit for that module. The mark for each assessment component that is subject to a resit will be capped at the pass mark for the module. This capped mark will be used in the calculation of the final module mark together with the original marks for the components that you passed at first attempt.

If you do not meet the requirements for a module and do not complete your resit by the date specified you will not progress and the Assessment Board will require that you be withdrawn 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
British National Formulary (March 2015) Number 69.

Clinical Knowledge (College of Optometrists)
Summaries are a reliable source of evidence-based information and practical ‘know how’ about the common conditions managed in primary care, providing quick answers to real life questions that arise in the consultation. For further information see http://cks.library.nhs.uk/home
Department of Health website at www.dh.gov.uk/nonmedicalprescribing
Emed info
Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency website contains information about the legal framework governing the prescribing, supply and administration of medicines at www.mhra.gov.uk
Medicines Partnership Programme at www.medicines-partnership.org
The National Clinical Assessment Service www.ncas.npsa.nhs.uk
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
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
## CODES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HESA Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price Group</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Anatomy and Physiology</td>
<td>B</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>JACS Code</th>
<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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