 MODULE SPECIFICATION

KEY FACTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module name</th>
<th>Independent Prescribing (Module 3)</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>
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<tr>
<td>Level</td>
<td>7</td>
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MODULE SUMMARY

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.

The independent prescribing (IP) module builds on the strengths of the existing therapeutics courses: modules 1 (Principles of Therapeutics) and 2 (Principles of Prescribing) are approved by the GOC as part of the Additional Supply (AS)/IP programme. Module 3 IP 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 modules 1 and 2 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 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).

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 prescribing/Professional guidance for prescribing optometrists/Clinical
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 optometrist's 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 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?

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 demonstrations</td>
<td>Lectures</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>120</td>
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</table>
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>
</tr>
</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>
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</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
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:

**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

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**INDICATIVE READING LIST**

Those with * indicate important reference texts.

**Anatomy and Physiology**


**Microbiology/Immunology**


**Pharmacology**


### CODES

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<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>
<thead>
<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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