TISSUE VIABILITY
6KNIN319

Level: 6
Credits: 15

Module leader: Michelle Burke
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Email: michelle.burke@kcl.ac.uk

Academic support is offered by the module leader and teaching team.
Michelle Burke

This handbook must be read in conjunction with module information provided on KEATS, the King’s E-Learning And Teaching Service. You will be given access to KEATS on enrolment. Important information relating to assessment and related regulations can be found in the Undergraduate Programme Handbook, available on KEATS and via the Student Services Centre.

This handbook can also be provided in alternative formats (such as large print) upon request to asc@kcl.ac.uk.
Module overview
This module can be taken part of a range of post-qualification undergraduate programmes from the Florence Nightingale Faculty of Nursing & Midwifery. The module contributes to a programme of study by providing a foundation for a key area of practice for healthcare professionals.

The module can also be taken as a freestanding module.

Module aim
The aim of this module is to enable you to critically apply the principles of wound care to your own clinical area through the development of knowledge and skills. It is expected that you will develop a questioning, reflective evidence-based approach to practice.

Learning outcomes
At the completion of the module practitioners will be able to:

- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the physiological and pathological processes which contribute to a range of acute and chronic wounds
- Critically examine the epidemiology of pressure ulcers, evidence based prevention and management
- Demonstrate advanced knowledge of normal wound healing and the factors influencing this process
- Critically evaluate the holistic nursing assessment of patients with wounds and competently plan, implement and evaluate a plan of care, demonstrating self-direction and problem solving skills
- Critically analyse the principles and techniques of common dressings and other wound care technologies, demonstrating competence in the application of these to relevant patients
- Critically examine the efficacy of treatment options, the role of other related disciplines and indications for specialist referral
- Evaluate research findings and clinical guidelines specific to wounds, making sound judgments and applying these to practice, thus enhancing evidence-based care
- Demonstrate sound decision making on common tissue viability issues to ensure effective treatment and infection control strategies based on a knowledge of microbiology related to wound management
- Demonstrate proficiency in facilitating learning and health promotion in relation to patients with chronic wounds, and their carers
- Critically evaluate the psychological and social effect of wounds on patients quality of life and wellbeing
- Demonstrate proficiency in autonomous practice, and evaluate the ethical and accountability aspects of managing the nursing care of patients with a variety of wounds
- Critically evaluate the knowledge, skills and networking required to organize and support a tissue viability service, and the integral links between acute services and primary care

Suggestions are given in this handbook and at the end of each session for further study to meet the learning outcomes.
Support in practice
For the duration of the module you will need support from your employer to undertake 10-20 hours of supervised practice, with your practice assessor, within your clinical area in order to meet the module’s learning outcomes and undertake the practice assessment.

For the practice assessment, you will need to identify a practice assessor who MUST meet the following criteria:

- Either be a designated Tissue Viability Specialist Nurse or have completed a recognised course in tissue viability and been judged as competent by others in the employing Trust
- Be working in a clinical area that currently supports learners and where wound care is regularly carried out.

The practice assessor form should be completed and signed by the practice assessor and scanned and emailed to the module leader (michelle.burke@kcl.ac.uk) by Monday 5 June 2017.

Risk
In this module you will be handling patients with infected tissue material; this carries a moderate level of risk and you are expected to take all reasonable care.

Teaching arrangements
The teaching and learning strategies underpinning this module are based upon the belief that participants are adults with prior learning experience who are also experienced practitioners. At level 6 there is greater emphasis on self-directed learning and independent study. The role of the lecturer is that of a facilitator of further learning experiences, which will enable you to practice effectively within the changing health care environment. In recognition of the variety of learning styles, teaching strategies will include lectures, seminars, presentations, group work, tutorials and demonstrations. You will also use your own clinical area to consolidate knowledge gained on the module with your practice assessor and to reflect on your practice experience.

The original module management team developed this module with representatives from several local NHS Trusts, both acute and community. The team will continue to monitor and evaluate the module and respond to formal student evaluation at the end of the module.

- Claire Acton (Guy’s and St Thomas’ NHS Foundation Trust)
- Natasha Burgess-Allen (Lewisham Healthcare)
- Bernadette Byrne, Melanie Doxford & Kumal Rajpaul (King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust)
- Caroline Hunter and Janet Grier (Guy’s and St Thomas’ Community Services)
- Vivian Kennedy & Gillian Dunwoody (Bromley Healthcare)
- Sarah Masterson (Chelsea and Westminster Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust)
- Kim Socrates (Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust)
Submitting coursework
For this module you are assessed by Michelle Burke.

Formative assessment
The aim of a formative assessment is to give you feedback and guidance on your work, in order to help you to do well in the summative (assessed) assignment. The formative stage will not be graded but is considered vital for overall success.

- Please bring either 250 words of your draft essay or a detailed plan to your pre-booked individual tutorial session or class tutorial on the final day.

Summative assessment
This module has TWO parts to the assessment. You must pass both.

1. **2000 word case study:** present a critical account of the care delivered to a patient in your clinical area with a complex wound

Further guidance is available within the ASSESSMENTS toggle on KEATS.

2. **Practice Assessment Document (PAD):** assessment of your clinical competence in tissue viability by your practice assessor.

The Practice Assessment Document (PAD) is available within the ASSESSMENTS toggle on KEATS.

Course work submission are provided on the KEATS module page.

It is essential that you use your candidate number on all assignments/examinations. Your candidate number, which will begin with X for the academic year 2016/17, will be available via Student Records on the King’s Intranet approximately one month after you enrol.

If you are unable to submit your work by the deadline please refer to the information in your programme handbook on “mitigating circumstances”.

**Submission date for coursework:**
- **Essay:** 18 July 2017
- **PAD:** 1 August 2017

Late submissions will be accepted for **24 hours** following the submission date. All work submitted late will be marked as normal but will be capped at the pass mark for the module. If your assignment is hard copy please ensure you date stamp it and submit it to the submission room G15 JCMB. If your assignment is submitted electronically through TurnItIn, information about how to submit late will be provided on KEATS module sites under assessment information.

The external examiner for this module is **TBC. Students are not to make direct contact with external examiners, in particular regarding their individual performance in assessments**

The College and its Examination Boards in the ten Faculties (Institutes/Schools, King’s Learning Institute and the Association of King’s College (AKC), work with over 500 external examiners to ensure the quality and standard of our taught awards. Find the latest report on the [External Examiners Report](#) page, navigate to the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery section.
Results and re-submissions for coursework

Students will receive a provisional (unratified) mark for their coursework 4 weeks following submission. According to the method of submission as detailed on your KEATS site, if your work was submitted online you will be able to download marked coursework from KEATS; alternatively, if you completed a hard-copy submission you can collect your coursework and feedback from the Student Services Centre.

To collect a hard copy assignment, you must provide your candidate number. Alternatively, you may send a stamped addressed envelope to the Student Services Centre ensuring that this is large enough to accommodate your assignments and that you have applied sufficient postage. Hard copy assignments will be retained for four weeks; if you have not collected your assignment by then, it will be destroyed.

Feedback will include the award of a numerical grade which remains provisional until ratified by the examination boards. The dates for the examination boards are available on KEATS. Ratified marks can be viewed via Student Records on the King’s Intranet, the Monday following the relevant examination board.

The marking criteria by which your work is judged are provided in full in your programme handbook. Please also refer to the section in your programme handbook on plagiarism and how to avoid it. If you have a query about how to refer to a specific piece of work please ask your module leader, your group leader or a member of library staff for guidance.

The feedback you receive on your assignment will guide you towards how to do better next time or how to maintain your existing high standard!

If you do not understand your mark or the feedback you receive please contact (inset module leader name)

If you are unsuccessful, it is recommended that you contact the module leader before submitting your second attempt. This will enable the module leader to provide you with an appropriate level of support as you prepare to re-submit your work.

Re-submission date:
Essay and/or Practice Assessment Document: 17 October 2017

Resubmitted work available for download:
Essay and/or Practice Assessment Document: 14 November 2017
Learning resources

Session 1 — Learning outcomes & indicative reading

- Legal & professional aspects of wound care
- Anatomy and physiology: structure and function of the skin
- Wound classification & phases of wound healing
- Wound bed preparation
- Holistic patient assessment & factors affecting wound healing
- Wound assessment
- Documentation and care planning
- Wound dressings

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the physiological and pathological processes which contribute to a range of acute and chronic wounds
- Demonstrate advanced knowledge of normal wound healing and the factors influencing this process and analyse the implications of these factors for patient care
- Evaluate the principles of wound management
- Explain the principles of wound bed preparation and the indications/contraindications for debridement
- Critically evaluate the holistic assessment of patients with wounds and plan, implement and evaluate a plan of care, demonstrating self-direction and problem solving skills
- Analyse options for wound products and demonstrate sound decision making in a choice of product
- Analyse the effectiveness of a wound care formulary
- Demonstrate proficiency in autonomous practice, and evaluate the ethical, legal and accountability aspects of managing the nursing care of patients with a variety of wounds
- Critically analyse sources of information in wound care
- Critically appraise methodology and studies relating to wounds
- Analyse the contribution of current research to current wound care practice
- Analyse the specific areas for risk assessment in wound management

To achieve the learning outcomes for the module, additional directed study suggestions are given below:

- Consider 3 patients with different kinds of wounds which are slow to heal; reflect on their wound healing status and consider the underlying physiology that might explain their delayed healing
- Either (a) reflect on your own practice as nurse prescribers: how would you explain your decision- making underlying your current prescribing? Or (b) if not a nurse prescriber, consider the rationale for recommending a particular wound care product when asking the GP/doctor to prescribe
- Identify targets for improvement in your practice area
- Consider a patient you are caring for with a wound. Using appropriate databases, find research papers (at least 2) that support your choice of dressing/product. Use a critical appraisal check list to help you critique the research papers.
Session 2 – Learning outcomes & indicative reading

- Prevention and management of pressure ulcers
- Management of traumatic wounds
- Wound contamination, infection and colonisation
- Pain management in wound care

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Critically evaluate the strategies for prevention and treatment of pressure ulcers
- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the epidemiology of pressure ulcers and their prevention and management
- Evaluate the merits of different forms of wound closure
- Evaluate the diagnostic signs of infection in wounds and analyse ways of managing clinical infection.

To achieve the learning outcomes for the module, additional directed study suggestions are given below:

- Consider your own practice in the approach to management of wound infection; what changes do you need to make in the light of today’s session. Contact your local microbiologist/infection control nurse and consider how you can plan an effective strategy for the management of wound infection and prevention of cross infection
- Wider reading around wound infection and infection control
- What questions would you incorporate into assessment to ascertain the effect of a wound on a patient’s body image
- Consider how you could incorporate quality of life measurement onto your existing wound assessment documentation
- Consider the factors which influence measurement in one quality of life tool
- Further reading on the factors which influence health behaviour and concordance.
- Further reading around wound closure.
Session 3 – Learning outcomes & indicative reading

- Leg ulcer management
- Burns and skin grafts
- Negative pressure wound therapy
- Moisture associated skin damage

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Critically analyse the tools used in a differential diagnosis of leg ulcer aetiology
- Critically evaluate different compression systems in the management of venous ulceration
- Identify and evaluate indications for use of analgesia in wound management
- Analyse the treatment options for patients with burns, and evaluate the effect of disfigurement on these patients
- Explore the principles of Negative Pressure Wound Therapy and the indications for its use

To achieve the learning outcomes for the module, additional suggestions for student’s study are given below.

- Wider reading around leg ulcer management
- Arrange to spend time in burns unit to observe current management of burns
- Wider reading around analgesia in wound care

Session 4 – Learning outcomes & indicative reading

- Diabetic foot ulcers
- Skin assessment and skin care
- Larval therapy

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Analyse treatment options for common skin conditions and demonstrate sound decision making in a choice of product
- Critically evaluate the management of wounds in diabetic patients
- Critically evaluate the principles of larval therapy as a wound debridement option;

To achieve the learning outcomes for the module, additional suggestions for student’s study are given below.

- Consider the current management of diabetic patients in your care; reflect on changes which need to be made, and attempt to implement one improvement.
Indicative reading

In relation to the learning outcomes, a number of indicative references have been given below: from these you are expected to select those most appropriate to your area of clinical practice, as well as searching the literature to find other relevant literature.


**Websites**
There are numerous websites associated with wound care. Please note that not all websites deliver evidence-based information. Useful sites include:

http://ewma.org/english.html

http://www.epuap.org/ European pressure ulcer advisory panel for guidelines and international developments on pressure ulcer management.

www.wounds-uk.com for access to articles and company information.

www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd for Cochrane reviews, Effectiveness Matters and Effective Health Care bulletins.
Module evaluation
At the end of the module you are requested to complete the short online evaluation which will be available on your module KEATS site. Student evaluations are very important to us and are required by Health Education England and the regional London Local Education and Training Boards.

Action from previous evaluations
1. Practical dressing selection session needed.
   ACTION: now included

2. 15 hours of practice assessment not sufficient.
   ACTION: guidance changed to 10-20 hours.

3. Moisture lesions session.
   ACTION: now included
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teaching mode</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Title</th>
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<th>Facilitator</th>
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<tr>
<td>University based study</td>
<td>Day 1</td>
<td>Tutorial</td>
<td>Introduction to the module content &amp; assessment, library and IT services, KEATS, academic writing and plagiarism module</td>
<td>09.00-10.00</td>
<td>Michelle Burke</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Monday 22 May 2017</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Legal, ethical and professional issues</td>
<td>10.00-10.30</td>
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<td>Structure &amp; function of the skin, physiology of wounds, phases of wound healing, wound bed theory</td>
<td>10.45-12.15</td>
<td>Kim Socrates</td>
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<td>Holistic assessment, factors affecting wound healing &amp; assessment tools</td>
<td>13.15-14.30</td>
<td>Viv Turner</td>
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<td>Wound cleansing &amp; dressing selection</td>
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<td>Tutorial</td>
<td>Q&amp;A time with module leader</td>
<td>17.00-18.00</td>
<td>Michelle Burke</td>
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<td>Tutorial</td>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>09.00-10.00</td>
<td>Michelle Burke</td>
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<td>Tuesday 23 May 2017</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Prevention and management of pressure ulcers</td>
<td>10.00-11.30</td>
<td>Kumal Rajpaul &amp; Jannah Wicheard</td>
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<td>Negative pressure wound therapy</td>
<td>11.45-13.00</td>
<td>Raz Hussain</td>
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<td>Assessment &amp; management of traumatic wounds</td>
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<td>Sue Whaley</td>
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<td><strong>Lecture</strong></td>
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<td>10.00-11.15</td>
<td>Bernie Byrne</td>
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<td><strong>Practical</strong></td>
<td>Juxta Cure</td>
<td>11.30-13.00</td>
<td>Megan Hunter</td>
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<td><strong>Tutorials</strong></td>
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<td>e-learning</td>
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<th>Monday 19 June 2017</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lecture</strong></td>
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<td>TBC</td>
<td>11.00-12.00</td>
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<td>Dermatology</td>
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<td>13.15-14.15</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Evaluation</strong></td>
<td>Module evaluation</td>
<td>15.45-16.15</td>
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<td><strong>Tutorials</strong></td>
<td>Pre-booked individual essay tutorials</td>
<td>16.15-17.30</td>
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<td><strong>JCMOB B17</strong></td>
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**Key to classroom locations:**
FWB – Franklin-Wilkins Building;
JCMOB – James Clerk Maxwell Building
WBW – Waterloo Bridge Wing
Student Computer Rooms in Waterloo campus are located at the library (FWB); FWB Rooms 2.49, 2.84 and 2.87; JCMOB B20 and Waterloo Bridge Wing 3/6. It is possible to book library meeting rooms in advance for group study work.