Rationale of Module
Acute and complex neurological disorders such as acute ischemic stroke, subarachnoid haemorrhage and traumatic head injury are potentially devastating and debilitating conditions requiring accurate, effective, individualized and holistic interdisciplinary care. Apart from the initial neurological insult, the patient is at risk of a wealth of potential, yet common, complications which can further decrease the chance of survival or functional recovery. The field of neurosciences has greatly progressed over the last 20 – 30 years which has enabled the advancement of individual treatment plans, cure rates and the reduction of both morbidity and mortality. Nurses must therefore be able to accurately and effectively assess, manage, plan, implement and re-evaluate interdisciplinary team care based on knowledge of the underlying pathophysiological processes, the patients individual needs, and up-to-date evidence.

Module Aims
This module builds on Module I, providing the student with a higher level of cognitive, affective and psychomotor skills necessary to develop competency in the holistic care of a patient with specific, acute and complex neuroscience conditions.

Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of this module, the student will be able to:

- Critically discuss the advanced nursing management of the neuroscience patient with altered respiratory and cardiovascular status.
- Critically review and reflect upon the ongoing management and nursing interventions of patients with regard to the following neurological conditions:
  - Cerebrovascular Disorders.
  - Neuroendocrine Disorders.
  - Traumatic head injury and intracranial pressure monitoring.
  - Central Nervous System Infections.
- Critically analyse the impact and nursing management of acute neurological emergencies on the neuroscience patient.
- Appreciate the role of pharmacology in the management of the neuroscience patient.

Indicative Syllabus
- Concepts of critical care nursing.
- Critical care management of the neuroscience patient with altered respiratory status.
Critical care management of the neuroscience patient with altered cardiovascular status.
- Traumatic head injury.
- Acute ischaemic stroke.
- Subarachnoid haemorrhage.
- Neuro-oncology.
- Professional nursing practice.
- Pharmacological management of the neuroscience patient.
- Neuroendocrine disorders.
- Nursing interventions associated with family response to trauma and critical illness.

### Teaching Learning Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contact time (face to face, online tuition, discussion forum, group work, PBL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent Learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment preparation</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examination/ Assessment Method</th>
<th>Type of Assessment (Continuous/Terminal)</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 hour Written examination</td>
<td>Terminal</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
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### Indicative Reading


Health Service Executive (2012) *Stroke Clinical Care Programme.* HSE, Naas.


**Additional reading material will be provided by individual lecturers**

**Date of Last Revision: April 2014**