## Rationale of Module
In Ireland there are 3,775 patients living with end-stage renal disease (ESRD), the complete, or almost complete, failure of the kidneys to function (NRO, 2012). It is a worldwide public health problem that affects people from all racial and ethnic groups, and its incidence is rising (KDOQI, 2012). According to the National Renal Office of Ireland (2012) the number of patients with ESRD is to increase by 170-200 per year, which is attributed to our ageing population and rise in incidence of diabetes and hypertension. These statistics suggest that nurses will be responsible for the care of a larger proportion of chronic patients with renal disease in the future and therefore increases the importance of providing a comprehensive postgraduate nursing programme in renal care to meet the needs of this population.

## Module Aims
This module aims to enhance the student’s knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to provide evidence-based, holistic care for the adult patient in the context of nephrology nursing.

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

- Critically explore the aetiology and pathophysiology of renal disorders and their physiological effects on other body systems.
- Critically evaluate the holistic assessment of the patient presenting with a diagnosis of renal disease.
- Critically evaluate the psycho-social impact of renal disease on the patient.
- Critically explore the key concepts of health promotion and health education and their application to nephrology nursing practice.
- Identify and critically evaluate relevant research, including national and international guidelines, in order to promote evidence-based practice within the renal setting.
- Synthesise knowledge and create responses to problems that develop and/or redefine existing practice within the renal setting.
- Critically evaluate and reflect on the professional role of the nephrology nurse within the inter-disciplinary settings and other members of the multi-disciplinary team.
Indicative Syllabus

- The normal structure and functions of the renal system.
- Assessment kidney function.
- Aetiology and pathophysiology of renal disorders and their physiological effects on other body systems.
- The management and prevention of renal disorders and their complications.
- The pharmacology of commonly used medications, their kinetics and dose modifications in renal disease.
- The principles of dietary and fluid management in renal disorders.
- Psychosocial care of the patient with renal failure.
- Health education and health promotion and their application in nephrology nursing practice.

Teaching Learning Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Contact hours including face to face tutorials &amp; workshops</th>
<th>36</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Course work preparation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>160</td>
<td>Directed reading &amp; study</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examination/ Assessment Method</th>
<th>Type of Assessment (Continuous/Terminal)</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Examination (Written)</td>
<td>Terminal</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Indicative Reading


Beauchamp T. & Childress J. (2001) *Principles of Biomedical Ethics*, Oxford University Press, USA


Recommended Journals:
American Journal of Kidney Diseases
Evidence Based Nursing
Health Psychology
Journal of Advanced Nursing
Journal of Clinical Nursing
Journal of Renal Care
Kidney International
Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation
Nephrology Nursing Journal
Nursing Ethics

Additional reading material will be provided by individual lecturers

Date of Last Revision: August 2013