Module Title | Major Adult Cancers (Optional Module)
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Level of Learning | 9 NFQ
Pre-requisite course | Primary degree or equivalent
ECTS Credits | 10
Module Coordinator | Ms. Mary O'Neill
Mr. Paul Mahon
Module Lecturers | Margaret Deasy, Ms. Aine Byrne & Nurses, Medical and Allied Health Professionals in the area of Cancer Services and Multidisciplinary Team will be included at appropriate stages in the module.

Rationale of Module
An annual average of 29,745 cancer cases was registered in Ireland during the three year period 2007-2009, representing an increase of 12% from the annual average over the previous three year period with approximately 50% more cancers reported per year than in the mid 1990’s. Although cancer incidence appears to be falling, the number of people developing cancer is rising as the Irish population ages. By 2020 it is estimated the number of new cases developing cancer will rise by 107% in Ireland (National Cancer Registry, 2011). These statistics suggest that nurses will be responsible for the care of a larger population of cancer patients in the future and therefore increases the urgency to provide a comprehensive postgraduate course in adult cancer to meet the needs of this population.

Module Aims
This module is build on Modules I and aims to provide the student with advanced knowledge, and critical thinking skills in therapeutic interventions to provide caring and competent practice within the cancer setting.

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

- Critically discuss and demonstrate advanced decision making skills relating to leadership and management in the cancer setting.
- Critically evaluate and utilise advanced knowledge and critical thinking skills relating to the nursing management of the major cancer diseases and side effects.
- Critically discuss and demonstrate advanced knowledge of cancer treatment modalities Chemotherapy, Radiotherapy, Biological therapies, Hormonal therapies.
- Critically evaluate and utilise advanced knowledge and critical thinking skills relating to the identification and nursing management of oncological emergencies.
- Critically debate the role of the nurse as a member of the multidisciplinary team within the oncology setting.
Indicative Syllabus

Nursing Care of the patient with cancer
- Assessment
- Planning
- Prioritising
- Implementing
- Evaluating

Treatment modalities for Site Specific Cancer
- Brain Cancer
- Breast Cancer
- Colorectal Cancer
- Gastrointestinal Cancer (Upper)
- Genitourinary Cancers
- Head and Neck Cancer
- Lung Cancer
- Lymphoma
- Pancreatic Cancer
- Prostate Cancer
- Skin Cancer
- Testicular Cancer

Cancer Therapy
- Individual chemotherapy drugs
- Targeted therapy
- Biological Therapy
- Side Effects
- Management of Extravasation
- Chemotherapy spills
- Safe Handling
- Research Clinical Trials

Recognition and Treatment of Oncological Emergencies
- SIADH
- Tumour Lysis
- DIC
- Hypercalcaemia of Malignancy
- Spinal Cord Compression
- SVCO
- Neutropenic Sepsis

Radiotherapy
- Principles of Radiotherapy
- Treatment Planning
- Treatment
- Side Effects
- Management of Side Effects
Multidisciplinary Team

- Role of MDT
- Role of CNS in Cancer Care
- Role of Oncology Liaison in Cancer Care
- Role of Dietician in Cancer Care
- Role of Physiotherapist in Cancer Care
- Role of Occupational Therapist in Cancer Care
- Role of Speech & Language Therapist in Cancer Care
- Role of Dietician in Cancer Care

Teaching Learning Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contact hours including face to face tutorials &amp; workshops</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course work preparation</td>
<td>44</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Independent learning time</td>
<td>160</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>250</strong></td>
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Examination/Assessment Method | Type of Assessment (Continuous/Terminal) | Weighting
---|---|---
Written Exam | Terminal | 100%

Indicative Reading


**Useful Journals**
- A Cancer Journal for Clinicians
- Annals of Oncology
- Cancer Nursing
- Clinical Nursing Research
- Cancer Online
- European Journal of Cancer Care
- European Journal of Oncology Nursing
- International Journal of Palliative Nursing
- Journal of Clinical Oncology
- Journal of Supportive Oncology
- Oncology Nursing
- Oncology Nursing Forum
- Seminars in Oncology Nursing
- Professional Nurse

**Web Sites**
- [www.acpgbi.org.uk](http://www.acpgbi.org.uk)
- [www.asco.org](http://www.asco.org)
- [www.arccancersupport.ie](http://www.arccancersupport.ie)
- [www.cancer.ie](http://www.cancer.ie)
- [www.cancerbacup.org.uk](http://www.cancerbacup.org.uk)
- [www.cancerstaging.org](http://www.cancerstaging.org)
- [www.dohc.ie](http://www.dohc.ie)
- [www.egmt.eu](http://www.egmt.eu)
- [www.hiqa.ie](http://www.hiqa.ie)
- [www.larcc.ie](http://www.larcc.ie)
- [www.library.nhs.uk/gastroliver](http://www.library.nhs.uk/gastroliver)
- [www.nccn.org](http://www.nccn.org)
- [www.ncri.ie](http://www.ncri.ie)
- [www.ons.org](http://www.ons.org)
- [www.rnao.org](http://www.rnao.org)

Additional reading material will be provided by individual lecturers

**Date of Last Revision:** August 2013