Ophthalmic Nursing

The Faculty of Health at Deakin University is a leader in providing education for people working or aiming to work, in health and human services. We collaborate with major employer and professional groups, ensuring that our programs are at the cutting edge of current research and practice.

The Professional Development Unit (PDU) at Deakin University offers high quality educational learning packages. These learning packages provide nurses with the opportunity to update their professional skills, support their current practice, take another career direction or seek an alternative entry pathway into higher education.

Each learning package is equivalent to 0.5 credit point, and multiples of 1 point may attract advanced standing into a Graduate Diploma/Masters degree. Learning packages are delivered via distance education over a 10 week period. Students are able to work at their own pace within this timeframe. Learning packages are offered in Trimester 1, Trimester 2 and Summer Trimester (numbers permitting).

Learning package one: PDU311  Ophthalmic Nursing: How eyes work
Learning package two: PDU312  Ophthalmic Nursing: Conditions that impair vision

Nursing care of patients with eye disorders has changed considerably in the last decade. Ophthalmology has moved its emphasis from inpatient medicine to outpatient care. Health professionals working in this clinical area must, therefore be cognisant of all these changes in order to provide the best care to their patients.

The eye can be studied in various ways. Ophthalmological practice, like other nursing specialties can be divided into smaller subgroups. Whilst it begins with an overview of the eye’s whole structure, this learning package concentrates on describing the congenital and acquired eye disorders and diseases seen in the external eye and those structures lying anterior to and including the lenses.
Learning package one: How eyes work

The content of this learning package includes:

- overview of the eye: external structures
- overview of the eye: internal structures
- optics: refraction and strabismus
- performing an ophthalmic assessment
- pharmacology in ophthalmology

Assessment: Open home examination = 100%

Learning package two: Conditions that impair vision

The content of this learning package includes:

- conditions of the external structures of the eye
- removal of an eye
- conditions of the internal structures of the eye: glaucoma and cataract
- traumatic conditions of the eye and, principles of treatment for the injured eye

Assessment: Open book examination = 100%

Admission requirements

Registered nurses with hospital certificate or undergraduate diploma or degree
Other health professionals will be assessed on an individual basis

Fees and Refund Policies

PLEASE NOTE: Deakin University’s ABN is listed on the enrolment form to act as a tax invoice. The Employer sponsored payment of fees MUST accompany the enrolment form to guarantee enrolment in the desired Trimester. No exceptions.

Please refer to the PDU website for information on current refund policies: deakin.edu.au/health/pdu

Enquiries and applications

Applications close four weeks prior to the start of each Trimester. Contact the Professional Development Unit for specific dates.

For information and an application form, please go to: deakin.edu.au/health/pdu/enrolment.php

While the above information was correct at the time of publication, Deakin University reserves the right to alter, amend or delete details of course and unit offerings.

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