

MSc Surgical Care Practice

Professional Accreditation

UCAS Code:

Course Length: 2 Years Full-Time

Start Dates: September 2015, September 2016

Department: Faculty of Health and Social Care

Location: Armstrong House, Manchester

- Join a programme which incorporates the 2014 national curriculum for surgical care practitioners;
- Immerse yourself in surgical care practice and tailor modules to suit your specific area of experience and your work-based learning requirements;
- Combine university study with independent learning and extensive practice;
- Approved by the Royal College of Surgeons.

This innovative Masters degree is suitable for qualified practitioners who have been appointed to surgical care practice training posts within surgical directorates. Your role should encompass the provision of care and appropriate intervention within the perioperative environment, on wards and/or in clinics (usually within a specified surgical specialty).

The programme will provide you with a systematic and critical understanding of the breadth and depth of knowledge within specific areas of practice. You will develop core and specialist surgical skills and extend your knowledge and practice within the surgical care environment. This will include some operative procedures that will enable specialist practitioners to provide continuity of service and standards of care to patients in areas which do not necessarily need to be provided by medically qualified staff.

Eleven specialist pathways are available:

- MSc Surgical Care Practice (Cardiothoracic Surgery)
- MSc Surgical Care Practice (General Surgery)
- MSc Surgical Care Practice (Gynaecology)
- MSc Surgical Care Practice (Maxillofacial Surgery)
- MSc Surgical Care Practice (Neurosurgery)
- MSc Surgical Care Practice (Otorhinolaryngology)
- MSc Surgical Care Practice (Paediatric Surgery)
- MSc Surgical Care Practice (Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery)
- MSc Surgical Care Practice (Trauma and Orthopaedics)
- MSc Surgical Care Practice (Urology)
- MSc Surgical Care Practice (Vascular Surgery)

What will I study?

Initially, you will be given a broad overview of surgical practice, covering areas such as clinical examination and diagnostic tests. You will also study and practice first assistant skills, basic surgical skills, and generic surgical care practice skills (including all of the pre, intra and post-operative patient phases). Research and leadership skills in relation to the role of a surgical care practitioner are also introduced and discussed.

In the second half of the programme, you will undertake a specialist negotiated module which will be tailored to your specific specialist practice requirements. For instance, if you work for an orthopaedic team then the module will be tailored to the specific requirements of that team, potentially considering themes such as understanding the pathophysiology of joint disease and strategies for their treatment, the use of implants in elective orthopaedic surgery and in relation to specific orthopaedic procedures, and knowledge of available options and surgical techniques.

A dissertation module focuses on a clinical project that will demonstrate leadership and innovation in a specific clinical issue.

How will I study?

The programme incorporates a blend of face-to-face study, independent learning and time spent working in practice.

For the time spent in university, the first half of the course will be delivered through block-weeks of face-to-face sessions. Eight block-weeks of face-to-face sessions will take place in the first year. Some reading time will be incorporated into these eight weeks to help you plan for the assessment and submission of work.

In the second half of the programme, there is a greater focus on independent learning. However, some face-to-face sessions will be planned and there will also be an attendance requirement for assessments.

Throughout the programme, you will undertake training in your place of employment, working alongside the multidisciplinary team to deliver safe and effective care to patients in the perioperative environment, on the wards and in the clinics both pre and post-operatively.

A minimum of 33.5 hours per week, for approximately 37 weeks, will be spent working in practice. The national curriculum requires a minimum of 2,200 hours over the two years in combined clinical activities in and out of the theatre environment. A minimum of 1,100 hours has to be spent in the operating theatre environment.

In addition to the above, a half-day per week will be built into your annual timetable to facilitate self-directed learning and engagement with Edge Hill University's virtual learning environment.

Please note, some face-to-face sessions and/or examinations may be undertaken at the Edge Hill University campus in Ormskirk instead of Armstrong House, Manchester.

How will I be assessed?

In university, assessments will take the form of essays, written case studies, viva voce (oral) examinations, written examinations and observed structured clinical examinations (OSCEs).

In practice, you will be assessed using a variety of techniques, including:

- The Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS), where you will perform a specific practical procedure that is directly observed;
- Case-based Discussion (CbD), requiring the evaluation of your performance in the management of a patient. This will provide an indication of your competence in areas such as clinical reasoning, decision-making and the application of medical knowledge in relation to patient care;
- Clinical Evaluation Exercise (CEX), where a clinical encounter with a patient is evaluated to provide an indication of your competence in skills essential for outstanding clinical care.

Who will be teaching me?

You will be taught by tutors from the Faculty of Health and Social Care who have the experience and expertise to deliver the applied elements of this MSc via lessons, seminars and discussions. In addition, teaching will be provided by associate lecturers who are either medically qualified, or employed as qualified surgical care practitioners.

You will require a mentor who must be a consultant surgeon for the practice elements of the programme, although it is

expected that you will work with a variety of staff within the surgical team. This may include, for example, other consultant surgeons, registrars and junior medical staff, in addition to other surgical care practitioners (subject to availability). The mentor(s) must be willing and available to work alongside you in the clinical arena, with real patients, supervising and assessing your clinical activities.

A Great Study Environment

The Faculty of Health and Social Care is one of the leading providers of education and training for health and social care professionals in the North West of England.

Offering some of the best facilities for health and social care students in the country, the innovative £14m Faculty of Health and Social Care building provides outstanding teaching and learning resources, including leading edge clinical skills facilities, ten teaching rooms, an 860-seat lecture theatre and a number of social learning spaces.

The faculty is home to a thriving research culture which includes a series of staff and student conference programmes, guest lectures and seminars, as well as active research groups.

HEA4002: Advanced Practice Project (60 credits)

Advanced Practice Project will involve working with other professionals within your practice area to identify, plan and implement a small scale project that is directed at promoting service delivery, improving treatment and/or developing practice within a health and social care setting.

HEA4045: Research: The Development of a Research Proposal (20 credits)

Research: The Development of a Research Proposal introduces you to the research process. The module will cover the philosophical fundamentals of both quantitative and qualitative traditions and a range of research methodologies. You will develop a proposal that will demonstrate your ability to plan a small-scale empirical project in your chosen discipline and demonstrate awareness of the theoretical and practical implications of undertaking such a study. The online content that you will experience during this module is designed to encourage online group interaction as well as independent learning.

HEA4120: Introduction to Surgical Care Practice (20 credits)

Introduction to Surgical Care Practice enables you to expand your professional boundaries by focusing on developing knowledge, skills and confidence, which will support your enhanced clinical skills. The module encompasses the skills required to act as a surgeon's assistant, including legal and ethical boundaries, risk, applied anatomy and physiology, and a range of specific clinical skills and techniques relevant to the role.

HEA4121: Clinical Examination and Diagnostics in Surgical Care Practice (20 credits)

Clinical Examination and Diagnostics in Surgical Care Practice enables health care professionals to develop the knowledge and skills required to elicit and record an accurate clinical history, perform a clinical examination focusing upon major body systems, and successfully interpret clinical diagnostic results to inform a clinical management plan.

HEA4122: Generic Surgical Care Practice Skills (20 credits)

Generic Surgical Care Practice Skills equips you with the knowledge, skills and understanding to effectively care for surgical patients from admission to discharge. These skills are generic to all surgical specialities and include, for example, anatomy and physiology, ward rounds for pre and post-operative patients and identifying common post-operative problems, such as haemorrhage, sepsis and shock, and how to manage these issues.

HEA4123: Leadership and Management in Surgical Care Practice (20 credits)

Leadership and Management in Surgical Care Practice is designed to facilitate a reflective, critical and evaluative insight into leadership styles, theories and strategic management, including change and resource management in health and social care. The module will focus on the development of management and leadership skills in practice, underpinned by the application of theoretical perspectives to individual work environments and the development of a strategic focus.

You will study one additional module from the following options. The relevant module will be determined by your choice of pathway.

HEA4160: Surgical Care Practice in Trauma and Orthopaedics (20 credits)

Surgical Care Practice in Trauma and Orthopaedics is designed to enhance your knowledge and practical skills in your specialist field and to assist you in achieving the Royal College of Surgeons' clinical competencies for trauma and orthopaedic surgery. The module will develop and build on core generic skills of working in surgical care, whilst concentrating on specialist aspects of surgery, clinical examination, ward and clinical-based patient care.

HEA4161: Surgical Care Practice in General Surgery (20 credits)

Surgical Care Practice in General Surgery is designed to enhance your knowledge and practical skills in your specialist field and to assist you in achieving the Royal College of Surgeons' clinical competencies for general surgery. The module will develop and build on core generic skills of working in surgical care, whilst concentrating on specialist aspects of surgery, clinical examination, ward and clinical-based patient care.

HEA4162: Surgical Care Practice in Urology (20 credits)

Surgical Care Practice in Urology is designed to enhance your knowledge and practical skills in your specialist field and to assist you in achieving the Royal College of Surgeons' clinical competencies for urology. The module will develop and build on core generic skills of working in surgical care, whilst concentrating on specialist aspects of surgery, clinical examination, ward and clinical-based patient care.

HEA4163: Surgical Care Practice in Cardiothoracic Surgery (20 credits)

Surgical Care Practice in Cardiothoracic Surgery is designed to enhance your knowledge and practical skills in your specialist field and to assist you in achieving the Royal College of Surgeons' clinical competencies for cardiothoracic surgery. The module will develop and build on core generic skills of working in surgical care, whilst concentrating on specialist aspects of surgery, clinical examination, ward and clinical-based patient care.

HEA4164: Surgical Care Practice in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (20 credits)

Surgical Care Practice in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery is designed to enhance your knowledge and practical skills in your specialist field and to assist you in achieving the Royal College of Surgeons' clinical competencies for plastic and reconstructive surgery. The module will develop and build on core generic skills of working in surgical care, whilst concentrating on specialist aspects of surgery, clinical examination, ward and clinical-based patient care.

HEA4165: Surgical Care Practice in Neurosurgery (20 credits)

Surgical Care Practice in Neurosurgery is designed to enhance your knowledge and practical skills in your specialist field and to assist you in achieving the Royal College of Surgeons' clinical competencies for neurosurgery. The module will develop and build on core generic skills of working in surgical care, whilst concentrating on specialist aspects of surgery, clinical examination, ward and clinical-based patient care.

HEA4166: Surgical Care Practice in Paediatric Surgery (20 credits)

Surgical Care Practice in Paediatric Surgery is designed to enhance your knowledge and practical skills in your specialist field and to assist you in achieving the Royal College of Surgeons' clinical competencies for paediatric surgery. The module will

develop and build on core generic skills of working in surgical care, whilst concentrating on specialist aspects of surgery, clinical examination, ward and clinical-based patient care.

HEA4167: Surgical Care Practice in Vascular Surgery (20 credits)

Surgical Care Practice in Vascular Surgery is designed to enhance your knowledge and practical skills in your specialist field and to assist you in achieving the Royal College of Surgeons' clinical competencies for vascular surgery. The module will develop and build on core generic skills of working in surgical care, whilst concentrating on specialist aspects of surgery, clinical examination, ward and clinical-based patient care.

HEA4168: Surgical Care Practice in Maxillofacial Surgery (20 credits)

Surgical Care Practice in Maxillofacial Surgery is designed to enhance your knowledge and practical skills in your specialist field and to assist you in achieving the Royal College of Surgeons' clinical competencies for maxillofacial surgery. The module will develop and build on core generic skills of working in surgical care, whilst concentrating on specialist aspects of surgery, clinical examination, ward and clinical-based patient care.

HEA4169: Surgical Care Practice in Otorhinolaryngology (20 credits)

Surgical Care Practice in Otorhinolaryngology is designed to enhance your knowledge and practical skills in your specialist field and to assist you in achieving the Royal College of Surgeons' clinical competencies for otorhinolaryngology surgery. The module will develop and build on core generic skills of working in surgical care, whilst concentrating on specialist aspects of surgery, clinical examination, ward and clinical-based patient care.

HEA4170: Surgical Care Practice in Gynaecology (20 credits)

Surgical Care Practice in Gynaecology is designed to enhance your knowledge and practical skills in your specialist field and to assist you in achieving the Royal College of Surgeons' clinical competencies for gynaecology surgery. The module will develop and build on core generic skills of working in surgical care, whilst concentrating on specialist aspects of surgery, clinical examination, ward and clinical-based patient care.

For more information about each module, including the dates and times of module sessions, please visit www.edgehill.ac.uk/cpdmodules.

Entry Requirements

To join this MSc, you must be a registered practitioner employed in a suitable working environment.

The minimum requirement is a lower second-class honours degree in a health or social care related subject, with evidence of at least 18 months post-registration experience.

It is anticipated that all students joining this programme will have extensive subject knowledge or work experience in their chosen field as all of the assessments involve the relation of theory to practice.

An interview will form part of the selection process.

In addition, you must complete a two-day Intercollegiate Basic Surgical Skills Workshop independently, at your own expense, delivered by the local deaneries. This must be

completed either before commencing the MSc Surgical Care Practice or while you are studying at the beginning of Year 1.

Recognition of Prior Learning

Edge Hill University recognises learning gained elsewhere, whether through academic credit and qualifications acquired from other relevant courses of study or through recognition of an individual's professional and employment experience (also referred to as 'experiential learning').

Previous learning that is recognised in this way may be used towards meeting the entry requirements for a programme and/or for exemption from part of a programme. It is your responsibility to make a claim for recognition of prior learning. For guidance, please consult the [University's Recognition of Prior Learning Policy](#) and contact the [faculty](#) in which you are interested in studying.

What are my career prospects?

On completion of this programme, you will gain a nationally recognised qualification that enables you to undertake the role of a surgical care practitioner.

You will also be able to demonstrate a number of core and specialist skills that will enable you to work effectively as part of the surgical team, work competently to practice within your field of speciality (e.g. cardiothoracic, colorectal, or trauma and orthopaedics) and to be able to function confidently, competently and autonomously.

Tuition Fees

Tuition fees for this MSc are £30 per credit for UK and EU students enrolling on the programme in academic year 2015/16, i.e. £600 per 20 credit module.

In addition, the two day intercollegiate Basic Surgical Skills Workshop, which you will have to complete independently, costs approximately £550 at current rates.

180 credits are required to complete a Masters degree. Please note, the University may administer a small inflationary rise in part-time postgraduate tuition fees in

subsequent academic years as you progress through the course.

Financial Support

For comprehensive information about the financial support available to eligible UK and EU students joining postgraduate courses at Edge Hill University in academic year 2015/16, together with details of how to apply for potential funding, please view our Money Matters 2015/16 guide at www.edgehill.ac.uk/postgradfinance2015.

Financial support information for international students can be found at www.edgehill.ac.uk/international/fees.

How to Apply

Apply directly to Edge Hill University.

Download the application form (pdf) and notes for guidance (pdf).

Get in Touch

If you have any questions about this programme, please contact:

- Faculty of Health and Social Care Enterprise and Partnerships Team
- Tel: 01695 657249
- Email: cpdenquiries@edgehill.ac.uk

If you would like to talk to the programme leader about the course in more detail, please contact:

- Jean Hinton
- Tel: 01695 657157
- Email: Jean.Hinton@edgehill.ac.uk