

## Module Profile

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### Module title: Decision–Making for Advanced Clinical Practice

### Module code: HLTH6115

Faculty	Health Sciences
ECTS Points, eg 10 ECTS	10 ECTS
Level (4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 in the FHEQ)	7
Any pre-requisite and/or co-requisite modules	Working in health practice
Programmes in which the module is core	MSc Advanced Clinical Practice
	MSc Advanced Clinical Practice (Neonatal Studies)
Module co-ordinator	Julie Wintrup
Contact hours	30
Non-contact hours	220
Total study time	250
Date approved by Faculty Programmes Committee	

## Aims and learning outcomes

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This module aims to increase your knowledge and understanding of the processes involved in clinical decision making. This will enable you to develop and enhance your scope of clinical practice whilst also advancing your abilities to make effective clinical decisions.

Your clinical practice will be developed further by the ability to make judgements in light of evidence, and by recognising, interpreting and evaluating cues.

### Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of the module you should be able to:

1. Demonstrate your understanding of the assessment, judgement and decision making processes used in your practice.
2. Make decisions that are underpinned and informed by sound clinical judgements and an ethical stance.
3. Critically evaluate current knowledge and information in your own area of practice to in order to draw on the best available evidence when making decisions.
4. Offer an explanation of the rational and non-rational processes used by you and others when making a clinical decision
5. Justify your clinical decisions, which may be autonomous or collaborative, by drawing upon theoretical principles and your practical experience.
6. Evaluate decisions in light of their health outcomes, considering the patient / service user and family / carer perspective

## Summary of syllabus content

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Module content will include both general decision making concepts and specialist components, which you will be able apply to your area of practice. Topics will be targeted to your interest and practice development.

### Module content:

- Introduction to assessment, judgement and decision-making in advanced practice
- Assessment, evaluation, measurement and use of types of data
- Theoretical approaches to decision-making in practice
- Judgement: personal and social influences on judgement, developing judgement skill and ability, articulating reasoning processes
- Ethical considerations: different ethical perspectives and frameworks
- Probability, risk and dealing with uncertainty
- Decision analysis in practice
- Decision making support including use of technology enhanced learning
- Interventions: assessing and critiquing the research evidence of particular types of intervention
- Health outcomes: methods of evaluating outcomes including patient reported outcomes
- The influence of policy and best practice guidance, professional codes and employer requirements, identifying tensions and conflict
- Collaborative decision making, advocacy and legal frameworks

## Summary of teaching and learning methods

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As an experienced clinician you will work with others and independently to achieve your goals. You can expect to participate in interactive lectures, help sessions, group discussions, and to use a range of technology enhanced and virtual learning approaches. A masterclass shared with other modules introduces you to international leaders, researchers and contemporary theories in the field of decision making. You will participate in debating hypothetical case scenarios, student-led seminars and self-directed learning. Information technology will be utilised where appropriate and you will be directed to web sites of relevance and interest. Specialist lecturers from differing professional/academic backgrounds will contribute to the module to ensure you experience a variety of perspectives.

## Summary of assessment methods

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### Summative assessment

A 3500 word written presentation and analysis of a decision made by you and related to your practice. The aim is to demonstrate mastery of a practice problem with advanced knowledge of decision making. You will analyse and discuss the circumstances and process of the decision made, reflecting upon the alternative courses of action open to you, and critically appraising the outcomes. You will draw on the research evidence, theoretical perspectives and your clinical experience to reflect and debate the issues arising from the decision within the particular practical, social and policy context.

### Formative activity:

You will participate in a peer presentation, giving and receiving feedback on your planned decision analysis, each lasting 10 – 15 minutes. You will be encouraged to record your own presentation in a way best suited to making use of the peer and tutor feedback.

## Special features of module

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It is proposed that a minimum of 25% of the contact time will be shared with other MSc students undertaking similar clinical pathways. It is anticipated that this collaborative learning will promote the sharing of experiences and best practice. For the remaining 75% of the contact time you will be in your own specialist learning set focussing on your own specialist area of clinical practice.

Key messages from the module are reinforced in a highly interactive, day-long Masterclass with leaders in the field. This is a unique opportunity to be challenged and stimulated to think differently about the role decision making plays in every day practice situations.

## Resources

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TBC

### Recommended Journals

Cognitive Science  
Evidence Based Medicine  
Evidence Based Nursing  
J. Evaluation in Clinical Practice  
Medical Decision Making  
Psychological Review