

Urology

Postgraduate Diploma and MSc Courses





Postgraduate Diploma

Delivered over 1 year, the online, part-time Postgraduate Diploma course is specially developed for busy health professionals. Formatted in 6 modules, each 6 weeks in duration; the course is designed to be practical and clinically focused.

MSc

The MSc runs over 2 calendar years, with the first year comprising of the Postgraduate Diploma. The second year starts with an initial 12 week online module to develop skills in critical appraisal and knowledge of research methodologies. Students then complete the professional project module.

Why study Urology with us?

Our Urology programme will equip the individual with a systematic understanding of urology, and application of knowledge for direct patient benefit/service development and future study. Demonstrate the ability to lead complex tasks and processes in the delivery and advancement of clinical care using knowledge of urology.

Our Urology programme will equip equip students with life-long learning and advanced problem-solving skills that they can apply knowledge of urology to clinical practice. Enabling graduates to deliver leadership to teams in multi-agency, multi-cultural and/or international contexts.

Urology Course Modules

Our online Postgraduate Diploma in Urology allows you to study for just one calendar year and is a part-time, distance-learning course. The course is worth 120 credits and comprises six modules of 20 credits, each running over a period of six weeks.

Module 1 - Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms

Aim of the module:

- Apply an advanced understanding of lower urinary tract anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology to the clinical assessment, investigation and management of lower urinary symptoms.

Synopsis of module content:

- Anatomy, Physiology and pathophysiology of the Lower Urinary Tract
- Investigation and Diagnosis of the Lower Urinary Symptoms (LUTS)
- Conservative and pharmacological treatment of benign prostatic enlargement (BPE) and lower urinary tract symptoms (LUTS)
- Surgical treatments for benign prostate enlargement (BPE) and lower urinary tract symptoms (LUTS)
- Management of overactive bladder (OAB)
- Management of Nocturnal Polyuria

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Develop a systematic understanding and critical knowledge of the anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology of the lower urinary tract as well as in the diagnosis, investigation and management of the person presenting with lower urinary tract symptoms.
2. Critically evaluate the evidence relating to the diagnosis, investigation and management of lower urinary tract symptoms.
3. Apply this knowledge and understanding to synthesise and deliver diagnostic and management strategies to provide the best level of care for patients presenting with lower urinary tract symptoms.

Module 2 - Prostate and Bladder Cancers

Aim of the module:

- To develop an in-depth understanding of the presentation, investigation and management of Prostate and Bladder cancer.

Synopsis of module content:

- Incidence, presentation and investigation of prostate cancer
- Diagnosis and staging of prostate cancer
- Treatment of prostate cancer
- Presentation and investigation of bladder cancer
- Diagnosis and staging of bladder cancer
- Treatment of bladder cancer

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Develop a critical knowledge and understanding of the incidence, presentation, diagnosis, investigation and management of prostate and bladder cancer.
2. Critically evaluate current research and guidelines related to the diagnosis and management of prostate and bladder cancer.
3. Synthesise and translate the critical knowledge into complex case scenarios relating to the diagnosis and management of prostate and bladder cancers.

Module 3 - Urinary Tract Infections

Aim of the module:

- Develop a comprehensive understanding of the presentation, diagnosis and management of patients with urinary tract infections (UTIs).

Synopsis of module content:

- Incidence, risk factors and pathogens
- Investigation and diagnosis
- Management of urinary tract infections (UTIs)
- Recurrent urinary tract infections (UTIs)
- Prostatitis
- Epididymitis and Orchitis

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Develop a critical knowledge and understanding of the diagnosis, investigation and management of urinary tract infections to include prostatitis, epididymitis and orchitis.
2. Critically evaluate the current research and guidelines relating to the presentation, diagnosis and management of urinary tract infections, prostatitis, epididymitis and orchitis.
3. An ability to synthesise and critically evaluate guidance and evidence to be able to manage and treat patients with urinary tract infections (UTI) in clinical practice including prostatitis, epididymitis and orchitis.

Module 4 - Renal, Penile and Testicular Cancers

Aim of the module:

- Develop an in-depth understanding of the presentation, investigation and management of renal, penile and testicular cancer.

Synopsis of module content:

- Renal cancer – Presentation, investigation and staging
- Renal cancer – Treatment
- Testicular cancer – Presentation, investigation and staging
- Testicular cancer – Treatment
- Penile cancer – Presentation, investigation and staging
- Penile cancer – Treatment

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the recognition, investigation, staging and management of renal, penile and testicular malignancies.
2. Systematically and critically evaluate current research and guidelines relating to the diagnosis, investigation and management of renal, penile and testicular malignancies.
3. An ability to synthesise and incorporate the critical knowledge and evidence base for the diagnosis and management of renal, penile and testicular cancers.



Doing a course, all online is a lot more convenient for me around my clinical role so that's why I chose to study with Lerna...

I really like how flexible the course was, I liked the freedom I got with the professional project and I was well supported throughout the whole 2 years!

- Lisa Jayne Edwards, Medical Education MSc graduate

Module 5 - Renal Tract Stones and Obstruction

Aim of the module:

- Develop a comprehensive understanding of renal tract stones and their investigation and management.

Synopsis of module content:

- Pathophysiology of stone formation
- Stones and upper tract obstruction.
- Presentation and investigations
- Management of acute stones
- Management of recurrent stones
- Stones and infection

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Develop a systematic understanding and critical knowledge of the diagnosis and management of renal stones, including the pathophysiology of stone formation and the principles of stone prevention.
2. Critically evaluate the evidence relating to the diagnosis, investigation and management of renal stones.
3. An ability to synthesise and incorporate the knowledge and evidence base into complex clinical scenarios relating to the diagnosis and management of people who present with renal stones.

Module 6 - Erectile Dysfunction and Peyronie's Disease

Aim of the module:

- Develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of erectile dysfunction and Peyronie's disease.

Synopsis of module content:

- Epidemiology and causes of erectile dysfunction
- Investigations
- Management
- Anatomy and physiology of Peyronie's Disease
- Investigation and examination of Peyronie's disease.
- Management of Peyronie's disease

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"When I enrolled into the course I had no idea about the opportunities it would provide me with. Having my first paper published through this course helped me overcome my apprehensions of academic writing and made me more confident to pursue it further. "

- Rutu Dave, Postgraduate student



On completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Develop a critical knowledge and understanding of the pathophysiology, assessment and management of erectile dysfunction and Peyronie's disease.
2. Critically evaluate the evidence and guidelines relating to the diagnosis, investigation and management of erectile dysfunction and Peyronie's disease including understanding the underlying pathophysiology.
3. Critically apply the knowledge and synthesise the evidence into clinical practice for patients presenting with erectile dysfunction and Peyronie's disease including the counselling of patients.

Teaching Methods

Our courses are conducted entirely online through self-directed distance learning. However, you will receive guidance throughout with tutor-stimulated academic discussions, which are based on clinically-rich case scenarios. These usually occur within groups of 10-15 students, allowing you to clearly communicate with both your tutor and fellow students.

You will participate in a combination of group and individual activities, which are recorded in a reflective journal. This innovative teaching method enables you to envisage the translation of your studies into your every day work and practice.

Our dedicated Student Support Team are also available to help with any problems you may face. From navigating our online platform to advising you on deadlines, our team can assist with any questions or challenges you may have along the way.

Study Skills week

Once you have secured your place on the course, you will be invited to our Study Skills week. This will give you the opportunity to participate in workshops on Harvard referencing, scientific and reflective writings, and levels of evidence in preparation for your studies. It is not compulsory for you to attend this induction but it is recommended, as it'll provide you with a sturdy introduction to the course.

Urology: Postgraduate Diploma

Entry Requirements

Documents required:

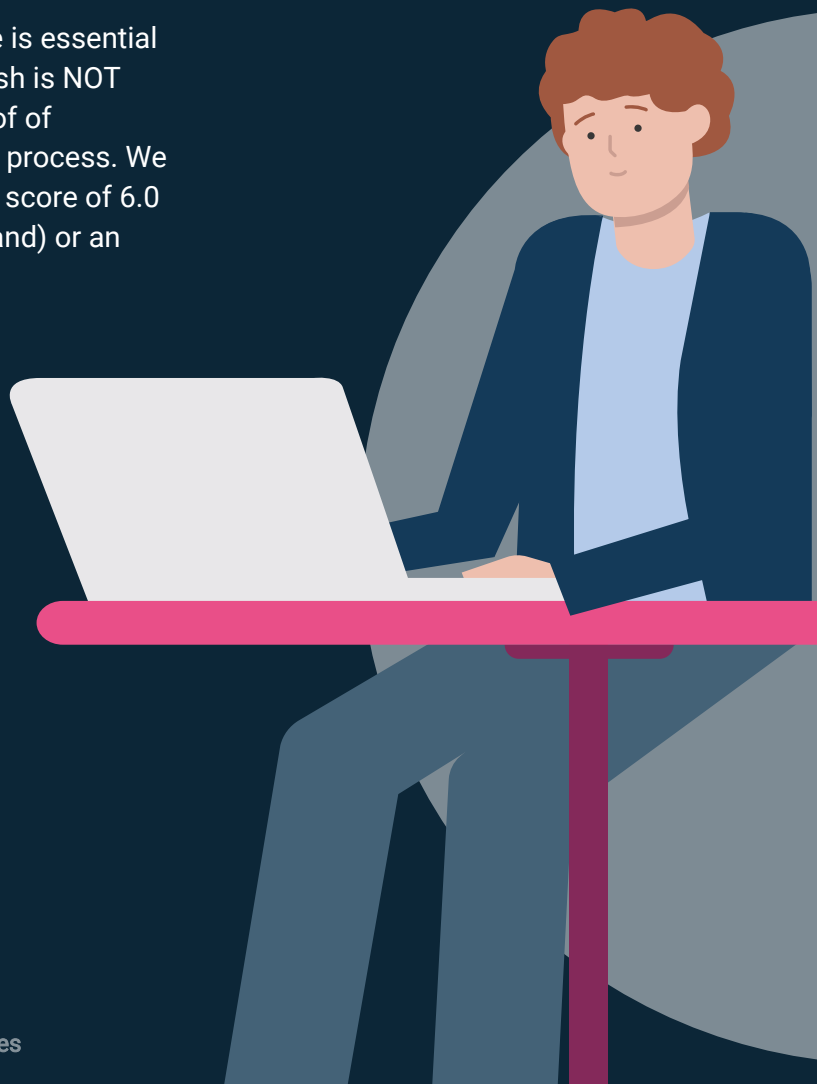
- A copy of your updated CV including your address and date of birth.
- A copy of your undergraduate degree certificate.
- The name and email address of someone who is able to provide a reference, this can be a work colleague, employer or former tutor.
- A detailed personal statement explaining why you would like to undertake the course.

Applicants should submit copies of the following with their application:

Proficiency in the English language is essential to completing our courses. If English is NOT your first language, we ask for proof of competency during the application process. We are able to accept an IELTS overall score of 6.0 (with a minimum of 5.5 for each band) or an equivalent qualification.

Should you have already successfully completed a 1 year Postgraduate Diploma at another institution and wish to convert to the MSc and complete only the second year of the programme this is possible. Please contact our admissions department admissions@learna.ac.uk to find out more.

Applicants without the above academic criteria but relevant/suitable experience can apply. Applications will be judged on the individual specifics of background and qualifications including ability to work at postgraduate level (applicants may be asked to submit a piece of work for assessment to confirm that they are able to work comfortably at postgraduate level and demonstrate requisite clinical/professional knowledge).



Urology: MSc Course Modules

Note: The first year of the MSc comprises of the 6 modules within the PGDip.

Module 7 - Professional Project

Aim of the module:

- To help students recognise, understand, interpret and apply methods used in healthcare research and critically appraise the various methodologies specific to urological research.

Synopsis of module content:

- Terminology used in epidemiology and research studies such as prevalence, incidence, sensitivity, specificity, false positives and false negatives
- Interpreting graphical representation of epidemiological and statistical data such as Kaplan-Meier curves, forest plots and meta-analyses
- Calculations used in the assessment of research data such as relative risk, absolute risk and number needed to treat. Statistical tests and their applications including t-tests, ANOVA and chi-square
- Qualitative research methods
- Fundamentals of evidence-based practice and its application into the clinical setting
- Principles of health economics, audit and quality improvement/assurance systems
- Establishing patient registers and the value of disease-specific registers
- Research into educational principles for both healthcare practitioner and patient

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Select and apply different methodological perspectives and tools to answer research questions in urology.
2. Critically analyse and interpret research in urology.
3. Design and undertake a research/development project related to urology.
4. Critically evaluate practice and suggest improvements or change.
5. Incorporate knowledge of the research process in developing services appropriately.

Module 8 - Professional Project

Aim of the module:

- To develop students' ability to critically appraise specific areas of clinical, research and/or organisational practice and develop skills in independent research, study and writing for publication.

Synopsis of the module:

- The module will depend on the creation of a piece of work based upon a specific clinically related project relevant to the student's practice.

This project may comprise:

- Literature review and appraisal of the evidence
- Audit of practice including organisational or clinical
- Review and implementation of evidence-based practice
- Qualitative or quantitative research (formal research involving human subjects is not anticipated)
- Case(s)-based and quality of service review with critical appraisal
- Case report, review of the literature and organisational assessment

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Design and undertake research and development of a project in order to produce an extensive piece of literature which may be suitable for peer-reviewed publication.
2. Critically evaluate practice and suggest improvements or change in a healthcare setting.
3. Incorporate knowledge of the research process in developing services appropriately.

Teaching Methods

Module 7 - Research Methodologies and Critical Appraisal

This module runs over a 8 week period and is designed to develop skills in critical appraisal and knowledge of research methodologies. The module consists of mandatory formative assessment activities to support your learning and development prior to the Professional Project module.

Module 8 - Professional Project

Students will create a dissertation, the theme of which has been developed in discussion with their tutor.

Supervision will normally involve direct online support involving planned progress, supporting research activity and reading student work.

Supervisors and students will agree on a communications plan, which may involve emails or online chats. Some students may employ the use of freely available chat or audio conferencing facilities for live discussion with supervisors.

Students will have access to online forums where they can develop their research capabilities together.

All communications with tutors will be logged on the Professional Project forum by the student, and consists of brief summaries of discussion.

Entry Requirements

Should you have already successfully completed a 1 year Postgraduate Diploma at another institution and wish to convert to the MSc and complete only the second year of the programme this is possible. Please contact our admissions department admissions@learna.ac.uk to find out more.

Individuals who have not completed the postgraduate diploma can apply for the Urology MSc as a two year course consisting of eight modules (180 credits) with the first 120 credits deriving from the postgraduate diploma.

Entry requirements for the two-year course are as for the Postgraduate Diploma.

Applicants should be working in a clinical setting, either in the UK or overseas, and have a science degree in a relevant subject.

You will also need to submit copies of the following with your application:

- Qualification certificates
- A maximum of two professional and/or academic references
- IELTS score of 6.0 with a minimum of 5.5 for each band (or an equivalent qualification)

Graduates of this course will receive a Master of Science award.

The Urology Postgraduate Diploma provides a progression route for the MSc course in Urology.



What do our students think?

Since 2010, over 1000 students have progressed their medical career by enrolling in one of our qualifications. We ourselves have learned a lot during this time and continually seek to improve the student learning experience. Here is what some of our previous students have said:

"I found the online learning very interesting. It enabled me to save money and time."

Dr Imad Eddin Rahamtalla, Doctor

"I strongly recommend Diploma MSc to all those busy physicians who are working in remote areas and wish to upgrade their knowledge."

Dr Junaid Zaffar, Diabetologist

"The learning was fun and enjoyable. The course was awesome and it increased my confidence."

Dr Sankar Nath Jha, Assistant Professor





"I found learning with Diploma MSc interesting, it helped to update my academic knowledge."

Dr Prasanth Kinattupurayil, Doctor

"I love that it was flexible and that I could log in at my convenience. I found this course to be very in-depth, informative, challenging and stimulating."

Kerri-Ann Best PGDip, RD



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