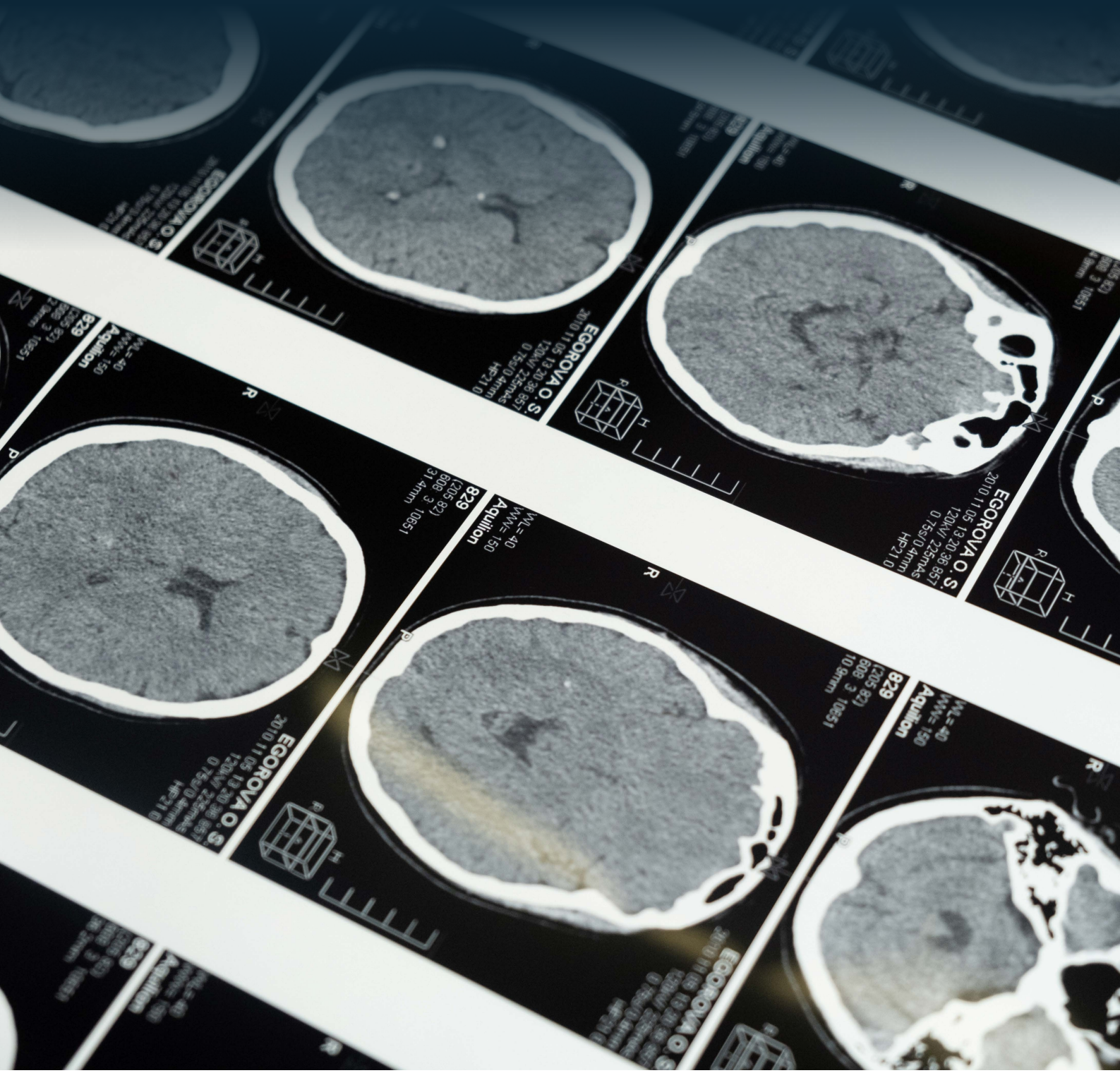
Learna | Diploma MSc

Neurology

Postgraduate Diploma and MSc Courses



THE UNIVERSITY OF BUCKINGHAM

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 Neurology with us?

Our Neurology programme will equip the individual with a systematic understanding of Neurology, skills in critical appraisal and application of knowledge for direct patient benefit/ service development and future study.

Our Neurology courses will equip students with the ability to implement best practice and innovation in complex medical scenarios. Students will be able to extend the scope of practice in Neurology by exploring a complex issue in more depth, utilising knowledge gained in the modules.

Neurology Postgraduate Diploma

Course Modules

Our online Postgraduate Diploma in Neurology 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 - Acute Neurology

Aim of the module:

- To provide a systematic understanding of the knowledge and skills required to identify, diagnose, treat, and manage a range of acute neurological conditions.

Synopsis of module content:

- Acute headache (migraine)
- Acute central nervous system infections (meningitis)
- Acute weakness, paraplegia, paraparesis;
- Acute encephalopathy
- Neurology in cancer
- Acute confusion and delirium

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

1. Demonstrate a systematic understanding of the presentation, diagnosis, and management of a range of acute neurological conditions.
2. Critically evaluate the evidence and guidance relating to the diagnosis, investigation, and management of acute neurological conditions.
3. Synthesise the evidence and critically apply it to the management of patients presenting with acute neurological symptoms.

Module 2 - Epilepsy

Aim of the module:

- To develop a comprehensive understanding of the presentation, investigation, and management of patients with epilepsy or epilepsy mimics while increasing the knowledge surrounding the semiology of seizures and the management of chronic epilepsy in a variety of settings.

Synopsis of module content:

- Definition/classification
- Acute management
- Semiology of seizures
- Management and investigation of chronic epilepsy
- Epilepsy mimics

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

1. Critically apply a systematic understanding of the presentation, diagnosis and management of epilepsy and conditions which mimic epilepsy.
2. Critically evaluate the evidence and guidance relating to the diagnosis, investigation, and management of epilepsy.
3. Construct management strategies for the investigation and clinical management of presentations of epilepsy to strategically enhance team performance in complex situations.

Module 3 - Transient Ischaemic Attacks and Strokes

Aim of the module:

- To develop in-depth knowledge and understanding of the presentations, investigations, and management of patients experiencing transient ischaemic attacks and strokes, including methods of prevention and rehabilitation.

Synopsis of module content:

- Classification and identification of transient ischaemic attack
- Stroke presentations
- Investigation and management of stroke
- Primary and secondary prevention of stroke
- Stroke rehabilitation

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

1. Develop a systematic understanding of the presentation, diagnosis, and management of transient ischaemic attacks, stroke, and stroke mimics.
2. Critically evaluate the evidence and guidance relating to the diagnosis, investigation, and management of transient ischaemic attacks and stroke.
3. Develop an ability to synthesise the evidence and critically interpret this into the care of patients presenting with transient ischaemic attacks and strokes including the role of the multidisciplinary team.

Module 4 - Multiple Sclerosis and other Neuro-inflammatory conditions

Aim of the module:

- To develop an understanding of multiple sclerosis including the presentations, classification, investigation, and management of patients with multiple sclerosis and other neuro-inflammatory conditions in a variety of settings.

Synopsis of module content:

- Multiple sclerosis presentation and classification;
- Multiple sclerosis investigation strategies
- Multiple sclerosis specific management
- Long-term management and rehabilitation of multiple sclerosis
- Other neuro-inflammatory conditions
- Other neuro-inflammatory conditions (continued)

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

1. Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the diagnosis, treatment, and management of multiple sclerosis and other neuro-inflammatory conditions.
2. Develop an ability to critically evaluate and synthesise the evidence relating to the diagnosis and management of a patient presenting with multiple sclerosis and other neuro-inflammatory conditions.
3. Synthesise the evidence and implement the knowledge into clinical practice to improve the management of patients presenting with multiple sclerosis and other neuro-inflammatory conditions.

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 Learna...

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 - Peripheral neurological disorders

Aim of the module:

- To develop an in-depth understanding of the diagnosis, classification, and management of peripheral neurological disorders utilising current findings and guidance in a variety of settings.

Synopsis of module content:

- Acute Guillain-Barre syndrome (GBS) and GBS like disorders
- Mononeuritis multiplex and differential diagnoses
- Chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy
- (CIDP)
- Entrapment neuropathies
- Chronic neuropathies
- Genetic neuronopathies

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

1. Demonstrate a systematic knowledge of the assessment, classification, and management of a range of peripheral neurological disorders.
2. Critically evaluate the evidence and guidance relating to the diagnosis, investigation, and management of peripheral neurological disorders.
3. Synthesise the evidence and critically interpret this into the care of patients presenting with a range of peripheral neurological disorders.

Module 6 - Neurodegenerative Conditions

Aim of the module:

- To develop a comprehensive understanding of the classification, diagnosis, and management of neurodegenerative conditions in a variety of settings, through the analysis of the latest guidance and findings.

Synopsis of module content:

- Presentation and differential diagnosis in movement disorders
- Parkinson's disease and multisystem atrophy
- Parkinson's disease evidence-based management
- Classification, identification, and diagnosis of cognitive
- impairment
- Investigation and management of cognitive impairment
- Motor neuron disease (MND)

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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

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

1. Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the diagnosis, treatment, and management of a range of neurodegenerative conditions.
2. Critically evaluate the evidence and guidance relating to the diagnosis, investigation, and management of neurodegenerative conditions.
3. Synthesise the evidence and critically interpret this into the care of patients presenting with neurodegenerative conditions.

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 a Study Skills week webinar. 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.

Neurology 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 6.5 (with a minimum of 6.0 for each band) or an equivalent qualification.

Health professionals working within a clinical setting, both UK and overseas, with a related Healthcare Science degree (including international qualifications) are eligible to apply for the Postgraduate Diploma in Neurology.

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).

Neurology MSc Course Modules

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

Module 7 - Research Methodologies and Critical Appraisal

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 research in the subject area.

Synopsis of module content:

- Terminology used in epidemiology and research studies such as prevalence, incidence, sensitivity, specificity, false positive 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 system;
  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 Neurology
2. Critically analyse and interpret research in Neurology

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 formulating the question and the creation of a piece of work based upon a specific public health related project relevant to the person's practice.

This project may comprise:

- Systematic literature review and appraisal of the evidence.
- Audit of non-patient data/organisational audit Review and implementation of evidence-based practice.
- Literature review and qualitative or quantitative research proposal.
- Case(s)-based and quality of service review with critical appraisal.
- Case report, review of literature and organisational assessment.
- Secondary data analysis.

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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

MSc teaching methods for this module are similar to the Postgraduate Diploma course modules, however it is run over 12 weeks.

Module 8 - Professional Project

To produce the professional project, students continue to use the online course; however, much of the work is self-directed.
Students are expected in the first 8 weeks to interact with their tutor on a weekly basis.
Students select a specific project and submit a project summary/proposal (approximately 1,000 words.

Once the proposal has been approved, the professional project (11,000 words) itself is then completed through online guidance and supervision offered by the tutor. The student and tutor will interact regularly (weekly on the dedicated students/ tutor discussion area or through any other means of communication deemed appropriate by both parties (telephone/ SKYPE/ email. Note of any verbal communication with the tutor is recorded in the student's journal by the student.

Entry Requirements

Health professionals working within a clinical setting, both UK and overseas, with a related Healthcare Science degree (including international qualifications) are eligible to apply for the Master's in Neurology.

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 MSc level (applicants may be asked to submit a piece of work for assessment to confirm that they are able to work comfortably at MSc level and demonstrate requisite clinical/professional knowledge).

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 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 for each band (or an equivalent qualification)

Graduates of this course will receive a Master of Science award from the University of Buckingham.

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

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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