Managing Routine Ear Care in Primary Care

School of Health and Life Sciences
Many patients experience hearing loss caused by wax impaction. Hearing loss can be due to many different causes, however differentiating between these causes requires specific knowledge and skill in order to ensure appropriate assessment, diagnosis, management or referral of the patient. Increasingly, nurses in primary care are the first point of contact for patients presenting with hearing loss.

Continuing professional development (CPD) programme at GCU
The purpose of this study day is to equip registered nurses working in primary care with relevant knowledge and skills to carry out ear assessment for patients presenting for routine ear care. The course has a particular focus on management of patients with wax accumulation and covers the removal of cerumen by the instillation of drops or by irrigation. It is anticipated that practitioners will have an opportunity to undertake a period of consolidation in practice following the study day. A self-assessment competency log will be provided to support this process.

The course will include case scenarios, history taking, decision making, management, anatomy and physiology, examination technique, accountability and practical ear irrigation.

Who should attend?
The study day is appropriate for:

- Community staff nurses
- District nurses
- Treatment room nurses
- Care home nurses
- General practice nurses

About GCU
Glasgow Caledonian University’s (GCU) Department of Health and Community Sciences, in the School of Health and Life Sciences, offers an extensive range of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, many of which are accredited by statutory and professional bodies such as the Nursing and Midwifery Council, and the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC). The department focuses on advancing practice, innovation and research in the following areas:

- Learning Disability
- Mental Health
- Adult Nursing
- Children’s Nursing
- Midwifery
- Social Work
- Community Health

Pursuing excellence in learning, teaching, research and knowledge transfer in the areas of nursing, midwifery, community health and social work, and bringing together academics with interests and expertise in these domains are our primary goals.

Further study can be undertaken at Masters Level. For nurses this level of study is intended to underpin advanced practice and is suitable for those wishing to enhance their careers prospects. It prepares for the decision making and judgments required of the increasingly independent and autonomous nursing roles that are part of the new models of care delivery. Our Masters level programmes include the MSc Advanced Nursing which offers nurses working in acute or critical care environments and those dealing with patients with lifelong illnesses the opportunity to extend their knowledge, skills and understanding for advanced nursing practice and nursing leadership roles.

Our students have access to a state of the art Clinical Simulation Laboratory, used to develop the clinical skills of nurses and ambulance staff. It can also be used to test and develop new medical procedures and assessment techniques. The ward environment includes a nurses’ station and intensive care suite, while audio-visual recorders can monitor proceedings in real time and students can learn by watching recordings of their techniques.

Course Fee
£85 per study day

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