WHAT IS POINT-OF-CARE TESTING?

Point-of-care testing is pathology testing performed by a trained operator in clinical setting at the time of patient consultation. The test results enable an immediate, informed clinical decision to be made, contributing to an improved health outcome for the patient. Point-of-care testing can be used in clinical settings including family practices, Indigenous medical services, community health clinics, emergency departments and hospitals, pharmacies and veterinary clinics and by mobile health teams including paramedics and first-response disaster teams.

FEEDBACK FROM STUDENTS

“I am positive that my enrolment in and completion of this course will go a long way towards narrowing the ‘formal knowledge’ gap in the area of point-of-care testing in Namibia. The course has given me a broader understanding and perspective of the POCT revolution and where it fits into health care provision.”

“The delivery of the content was excellent; the variety, the different formats of content and the ease in accessing them was fantastic. The facilitators were also very supportive, encouraging and knowledgeable… Great course, one well worth doing … The support, feedback, encouragement, knowledge and passion passed on by all the facilitators was brilliant and it encouraged me to learn as much as possible.”

FURTHER INFORMATION

More detailed information on the course can be found at www.flinders.edu.au/courses/postgrad/gcgpct

To discuss your study options contact the Teaching Team at the Flinders University International Centre for Point-of-Care Testing:

Prof Mark Shephard: Mark.Shephard@flinders.edu.au
Heather Halls: Heather.Halls@flinders.edu.au
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Phone: +61 8 8201 7555

www.flinders.edu.au/point-of-care
COURSE OVERVIEW

If you are a practising health professional or a recent graduate wishing to specialise in point-of-care testing (POCT) at a local, national or international level, the Graduate Certificate in Global Point-of-Care Testing provides you with advanced skills and specialty knowledge in this new and expanding area.

The Graduate Certificate in Global Point-of-Care Testing is unique in that it is the first formal postgraduate academic qualification in POCT to be offered by any university in the world. The course is taught by scientific and academic staff skilled in delivering community-based POCT models in ‘real-life’ field situations in Australia and internationally, and is strengthened by its interconnectedness with other related Flinders University teaching modules.

The Graduate Certificate in Global Point-of-Care Testing is delivered externally as a one-year, part-time, fully online course. Course activities include lectures on clinical and practical aspects of POCT, readings and web-based materials and online student exercises.

BENEFITS OF THE COURSE

The Graduate Certificate in Global Point-of-Care Testing will provide students with

- advanced skills and specialty knowledge in point-of-care testing;
- the ability to practice as a point-of-care co-ordinator who is able to manage individual sites or a network of sites conducting quality-assured point-of-care testing;
- learning opportunities to broaden their skills and knowledge in selected fields where point-of-care testing is widely practised; including rural and remote, and Indigenous settings;
- an understanding of how point-of-care testing can be used for screening and management of chronic, acute and infectious diseases.

STUDY PROGRAM

The Graduate Certificate in Global Point-of-Care Testing consists of 18 units.

Core Topics

MDSC8001: Advanced Point-of-Care Testing 1 - The Management of POCT Services (4.5 units) delivers advanced specialist practical knowledge on how to establish, manage and sustain a quality-assured POCT service at a specific clinical site or network of sites.

MDSC8002: Advanced Point-of-Care Testing 2 - The Global Applications of POCT (4.5 units) provides advanced knowledge and a global perspective on the use of POCT in chronic, acute and infectious diseases in a range of clinical settings.

Specialty Topics

The final 9 units can be selected from any of the following 4.5 unit topics:

Emerging POCT Applications
- MDSC8003: The Role of POCT in Disaster Management

Remote and Indigenous Health
- REMH8001: Context of Remote and Indigenous Health
- REMH8002: Remote and Indigenous Primary Health Care

Chronic Disease
- MHSC8112: Perspectives on Chronic Diseases Management
- MHSC8112A: Chronic Condition Self-Management for Specific Conditions, Contexts or Populations
- REMH8021: Chronic Disease in Remote and Indigenous Primary Health Care

Further related Flinders University topics may be added to this list over time.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Health professionals with approved qualifications in the fields of health science, medical science, nursing, medicine, nutrition, pharmacy, paramedic science, Indigenous health or public health are eligible to enrol in the course.

HOW TO APPLY

Domestic Students: Applications are made via GradStart on the SATAC website: www.satac.edu.au/uniweb, GradStart code: 2GC112

International Students: Applications can be made on-line or via an agent in your country. Details can be found at www.flinders.edu.au/international-students

FEE INFORMATION

The course is offered on a fee paying basis. For more information on fees go to www.flinders.edu.au/fees