

MSc in Oncology

Including PG Certificate and PG Diploma

Cancer Treatments 2

Module Guide 2018/19

Part B | Clinical Sciences



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Guide last amended: 04/02/2019

The information contained in this Module Guide is correct at the time of going to press. Any amendments relating to the course or changes to published dates will be announced to students via Canvas, the course virtual learning environment. Information found on Canvas will always be the most accurate and up to date information available. Where anything in this guide contradicts the ICR Academic Regulations, the ICR Academic Regulations take precedence.

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Module details

1.1 Module overview

Like its sister module Cancer Treatments 1, this module is designed to develop your knowledge and critical understanding of a range of common and rarer malignancy types and tumour sites to aid you in your clinical management of cancer.

The module is compulsory and is taken in Part B of the course. Lectures take place over the entirety of the second semester (eighteen weeks), and assessment takes place at the end of the module.

1.2 Module specification

Cancer Treatments 2	
Full Title:	Cancer Treatments 2
Part of Course:	Part B: Clinical Sciences
Compulsory or optional:	Compulsory
ICR Reference Number:	MS2012
Academic Level:	Level 7 (Masters)
Credit Value:	20 Credits

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Contact information

2.1 General enquires

Students are advised to contact the MSc course team regarding any administrative matters at mscadministrator@icr.ac.uk. Any academic matters should be forwarded to the Course Director, Module Leaders or Lecturers as appropriate.

2.2 Key people

Name	Contact Information
Course Director	
Dr David Bloomfield - <i>Breast</i> Consultant Clinical Oncologist, Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals	david.bloomfield@bsuh.nhs.uk
Topic Leaders	
Dr Jeanette Dickson – <i>Lung and respiratory</i> Consultant Clinical Oncologist, Mount Vernon Cancer Centre	jeanette.dickson@nhs.net
Dr Gargi Patel – <i>Breast</i> Consultant Medical Oncologist, Senior Clinical Research Fellow Kings College London	gargi.patel@kcl.ac.uk
Dr Sucheta Vaidya – <i>Lymphoma/haem, paed/teenage/young adult</i> Consultant Paediatric Oncologist, RMH	sucheta.vaidya@icr.ac.uk
Dr Mary Lei– <i>Head and neck</i> Consultant Clinical Oncologist, Guys & St Thomas	mary.lei@gstt.nhs.uk
Dr Susannah Stanway – <i>Cancer control in low/middle income countries</i> Consultant Medical Oncologist, RMH	susannah.stanway@rmh.nhs.uk

Dr Matt Williams – *Central Nervous System*

Consultant Clinical Oncologist, Imperial College
Healthcare NHS Trust

mhw@doctors.org.uk

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Module structure and aims

3.1 Aims

This module aims to further the knowledge gained in Cancer Treatments 1 by covering a different selection of tumour types/sites. You will acquire a comprehensive knowledge base in these additional topics, so more patients can be managed clinically at a level appropriate for specialist training in a UK Cancer Centre setting. The module will also enable you to recognise and perform the initial management of an extended selection of rarer cancers, and gain a critical awareness of the problems encountered by more site specialist colleagues. You can then to apply the theoretical knowledge learned in this module to the practical management of cancer patients.

3.2 Learning objectives

This module will allow students to:

- Develop an in depth understanding of the principles underlying the management of the malignancies described in the module;
- Synthesise, evaluate and apply these principles to the clinical environment;
- Evaluate and critically analyse the research base in the management of these cancers;
- Critically evaluate the knowledge base for these cancers in order to obtain awareness of the controversies and limitations which exist.

3.3 Structure

This module is a core module for Part B of the Postgraduate Certificate / Postgraduate Diploma / MSc in Oncology course. Students should attend all lectures to prepare themselves for the end of module assessments.

In this module, lectures cover seven sites of malignancy: three major 'core' sites and four 'specialist' less common sites. These are the module topics, and are:

Core topics:

- Breast malignancy;
- Head and neck malignancy;
- Lung and respiratory malignancy.

Specialist topics:

- Paediatric / teenage / young adult cancer;
- Central Nervous System malignancy;
- Lymphoma / haematological;
- Cancer in low and middle income countries.

All students attend lectures on all topics.

A full and up to date module timetable is available in the calendar on Canvas. Any changes to this schedule will be announced through Canvas notifications.

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Syllabus content

4.1 Core syllabus content

For each topic the following areas will be covered:

- Epidemiology, cancer biology and pathology of the tumour;
- Assessment of a patient with the cancer;
- Application of principles of local and systemic management;
- Evaluation of the evidence base for treatment;
- Identification of problems in managing this site.

4.2 Specific syllabus content

Each topic area covers a number of malignancies that fall under each classification, as well as some extra sub-topics. These are listed below:

Core topics

- Breast malignancy
 - principles of screening;
 - ductal carcinoma *in situ*;
 - surgical management of breast cancer;
 - breast radiotherapy;
 - neo-adjuvant therapy;
 - adjuvant endocrine therapy;
 - molecular targeted therapies;
 - advanced breast cancer.
- Head and neck
 - surgical management of head and neck cancer;
 - radiology of head and neck cancer;
 - supportive management and rehabilitation;
 - oropharyngeal cancer and HPV;
 - tumours of the oral cavity;
 - tumours of the nasopharynx and paranasal sinuses;
 - tumours of the larynx (supraglottis, glottis, subglottis);

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- salivary gland cancer;
 - thyroid cancer.
 - Lung and respiratory malignancy
 - non small-cell lung cancer;
 - small-cell lung cancer;
 - mesothelioma;
 - supportive and palliative therapy of lung cancer.

Specialist topics

- Paediatric / teenage / young adult cancer
 - soft tissue sarcoma;
 - paediatric chemotherapy;
 - paediatric radiotherapy;
 - brain tumours in young children;
 - neuroblastoma;
 - hepatoblastoma;
 - renal tumours;
 - retinoblastoma;
 - rhabdomyosarcoma;
 - medulloblastoma / PNET.
- Central Nervous System
 - care of brain tumour patients;
 - biology of gliomas;
 - management of high grade gliomas;
 - management of low grade astrocytoma and oligodendroglioma;
 - spinal and cranial ependymoma and spinal astrocytoma;
 - sellar and parasellar tumours – craniopharyngioma, pituitary adenoma and meningioma;
 - primary CNS lymphoma & cranial germ cell tumours.

Teaching as part of this block also includes the related topic of:

- proton therapy.
- Lymphoma / haematological malignancy
 - overview of paediatric and adult leukemia;
 - Hodgkins lymphoma;

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- Non-Hodgkins lymphoma;
 - CNS lymphoma;
 - multiple myeloma and plasmacytoma.
 - Cancer control in low and middle income countries
 - overview of cancer survival statistics across different resource settings;
 - understanding the disparities in global cancer control and an introduction to cancer control policy;
 - challenges to cancer control in low resource settings and strategies to overcome them.

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Assessment

5.1 Assessment overview

Both formative and summative assessment methods will be used in this module. You will need to complete four individual formative tests and one summative essay. All students must complete all assignments. Please refer to the Assessment section on Canvas or in the Student Handbook for more guidance on more general aspects of assignment submission.

Link to Cancer Treatments 1

The Cancer Treatments 1 sister module operates in a very similar manner to Cancer Treatments 2 but covers a different range of topics and tumour sites. The two modules function independently, but **at least one summative essay from either module must be written on a 'core' topic/tumour site** (i.e. both your summative assessments cannot be focused solely on specialist malignancies).

5.2 Formative single best answer tests

For this module, all students will sit four compulsory single best answer (SBA) tests. These SBAs must each be passed in order to pass the module overall, but the score will not contribute to the overall module mark.

In this module you must take SBAs in:

- Breast malignancy
- Head and neck malignancy
- Lung and respiratory malignancy
- Specialist topics (combined)

The tests will be taken on Canvas and will all consist of 15 questions, each scoring 10 points. You must score at least 50% (80 points) in each of the SBAs to pass. You have two attempts at

each test and your highest score will be recorded. The SBAs must each be completed within 30 minutes.

5.3 Summative assignment

This module is assessed via an essay on the practical clinical management of cancer, of **strictly up to 1,800 words only**.

Your essay should either be a case study or an audit of a particular clinical issue, selected based on professional interest from the range of topics/tumour types covered on the module. Set essay titles will not be provided, although case studies provided by Module Leaders for different areas of the module may be selected by you to discuss further. You are encouraged to discuss your intended choice of essay topic with your educational supervisor before you embark on it.

The essay will be used to assess the depth of your learning on the module, testing your higher-level understanding and ability to make judgements at a more advanced level. It should address both the relevant literature for the topic area and the specific clinical case being considered, and demonstrate that you have the transferable skills to be able to evaluate clinical practices in other areas in similar ways.

Your submission must clearly state the topic your essay relates to. Remember, as Cancer Treatments 2 is linked to Cancer Treatments 1, you must do at least one essay on a core topic across the two modules. It is fine to do two essays on core topics. Submit your essay via Canvas following the instructions in the Student Handbook. Ensure you submit your essay to the appropriate marker for the topic selected.

You are expected to reference relevant literature to support your essay. As a guideline, use up to 10-15 references to support your discussion. **Remember that penalties will apply for any work that is late, over the word limit, or includes plagiarised material.**

Case Studies

If you choose to write your essay as a case study, it should illustrate a range of management problems related to cancer management issues taught during the module. Each case should:

- State the topic to which the case relates;
- Briefly describe the clinical issues (this should not exceed 300 words);
- Include a main discussion of the case in relation to the literature, listing what you have learnt during the course and specifically this module;
- End with your conclusions, including what you have learnt from the case and how it will affect your future practice.

Audits

If you choose to write your essay based on an audit or quality improvement project, it should be about a clinical issue suitable for presentation at your educational base. The audit review must be written as a prose essay and should:

- State the topic to which the audit relates;
- Discuss the present standard of care, making reference to relevant literature;
- Discuss the clinical relevance of the issue;
- Note the evidence on which the audit standard is based;
- Discuss audited practice;
- Give proposals for change, discussing any likely obstacles;
- Outline future audit cycles;
- Give conclusions on what you have learnt from the audit, and how it will change your practice.

The audit should be submitted together with a letter from your base hospital educational supervisor, confirming your role in the audit, whether the work has been presented and where; and if it achieved the required standard.

Work based on class discussions

You may submit an essay on a topic that has been addressed in peer-to-peer class discussions and group work, including presentation exercises. If so, your write-up must be wholly your own work, while drawing on what you discussed and decided in group work. Any extensive similarities or cross-over with other students' write-ups will be detected by plagiarism software and may be penalised. Be sure to include relevant references to journal papers where appropriate.

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Learning resources

6.1 Learning resources

The following learning resources are core texts relevant to the whole module. You are strongly advised to read both of them.

- The relevant chapters in Treatment of Cancer, 6th edition. Price and Sikora. (2014) Hodder and Arnold
- The relevant chapters in Oxford Textbook of Oncology, 3rd edition. Kerr, Haller, von de Velde and Baumann. (2016) Oxford University Press

6.2 Specific topic recommended texts

The following learning resources are relevant to the individual module topics. Details of further reading on specific sub-topics may also be identified during teaching on the module.

- Breast malignancy
 - The relevant chapters in Cancer: Principles and Practice of Oncology. DeVita, Lawrence and Rosenberg, 10th edition. (2014) Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins
- Lung and respiratory malignancy
 - The relevant chapters in Cancer: Principles and Practice of Oncology. DeVita, Lawrence and Rosenberg, 10th edition. (2014) Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins
 - The relevant chapters in Radiotherapy in Practice – External Beam Therapy. Edited by Peter Hoskin (2012) second edition Oxford University Press.
- Paediatric / teenage / young adult cancer
 - The relevant chapters in Paediatric Oncology. Pinkerton R, Plowman PN, Pieters R. (2004) Hodder and Arnold
 - Principles and Practice of Paediatric Oncology, 7th edition. Pizzo PA and Poplack DG. (2015) Wolters Kluwer

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Making the discoveries that defeat cancer