Contemporary Issues in Practice

Module Code CIIP
Credit Value 15
NQF level: 6
Study duration: 9 weeks

Module description
Healthcare management is a dynamic topic and this module is designed to provide students with an opportunity to examine some of the topics that reflect contemporary issues in healthcare and that are of interest to managers. The aims of healthcare management teams are to resolve issues by implementing strategies and processes whilst keeping the interest of service users and other stakeholders in focus and striving to meet their needs.

The contemporary issues include supply and demand of healthcare services and provision of the same; technological advances which relate to changing dynamics of healthcare and its delivery environment; demographics and socioeconomics within the changing landscape of healthcare provisions; and working relationships between healthcare management teams and all stakeholders.

The first half of the module will explore management theory relevant to healthcare and provide a basis for moving forward into the second half of the module where specific contemporary issues will be examined, and theories applied.

This module aims to:
- Discuss the importance of management theory in evaluating and responding to contemporary issues in practice
- Describe a range of contemporary issues in practice
- Facilitate evaluation of contemporary issues in practice and the application and implementation of evidence based strategic management processes

Learning outcomes
On completion of this module, students will be able to:
- Discuss and evaluate a range of management theories related to contemporary issues in practice
- Critically analyse strategic management processes
- Understand how to implement change within healthcare management contexts related to key contemporary issues

Syllabus
- Management theory (including stakeholder theory, TQM, change theory)
- Managing stakeholder needs (defining stakeholders, examining specific requirements and needs)
- Delivering quality service and promoting continuous improvement (including quality assurance)
- Organisational structure, culture and change related to strategic management
- Specific contemporary issues in practice (including legislative change/policy strategies, international/global influences, health education and preventative measures, inequalities in service provision and delivery, technological developments, evaluating and managing change, demographics and socioeconomic change, working relationships)

Learning and teaching methods
The learning and teaching methods for the module follow the online delivery strategy for the programme as a whole. The module will be delivered by reading materials available on the learning platform supported by pre-recorded lecturecasts, synchronous Question and Answer (Q&A) sessions, directed independent study, formative and summative activities and assessments. Across the programme students will undertake a variety of assessment which are aimed to evidence their learning against the learning outcomes and develop a broad range of skills. Students will be encouraged to identify and share relevant resources and are expected to extend and enhance the knowledge and understanding they acquire by regularly consulting on-line library materials relating to the course. Tutor support will be available to students via online office hours, prearranged telephone and/or Skype calls and email communication.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of unit of assessment</th>
<th>Length/Duration</th>
<th>Submission Date</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 1 – e.g. small group case study discussion</td>
<td>2 weeks</td>
<td>Units 3-5</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment 2 – e.g. essay</td>
<td>2000 words</td>
<td>Unit 9</td>
<td>60%</td>
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