Discover
the only centre in the region offering a
distinct Tissue Viability Pathway

Tissue Viability Degree level Pathway

COURSE FACTS

Faculty | Faculty of Health
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Applications | Please contact the Admissions Office. T: 0121 331 5500 E: health@bcu.ac.uk
Duration | Can be taken full-time over one year or part-time up to five years (subject to confirmation)
Location | City South Campus, Edgbaston
Contact | Pathway Leader - Patricia Davies. T: 0121 331 7104. E: patricia.davies@bcu.ac.uk
Professional Navigator - Tracey Cutler. T: 0121 331 6162 E: tracey.cutler@bcu.ac.uk
www.bcu.ac.uk/healthcpd
Visit www.bcu.ac.uk/healthopendays for dates of future events

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
The student must be working within/have access to an appropriate clinical area to enable competency completion.
For BSc pathway: professional health related qualification and 240 credits of which 120 must be at level 5.
For MSc pathway: as above plus a minimum of 60 credits at level 6

COURSE OVERVIEW
This course is aimed at health care practitioners who want to enhance their skills and knowledge within the field of Tissue Viability.
There is a core module focusing specifically on wound management which provides the foundation building block for the course. Following this module the student can choose two from the three optional modules available to best suit their clinical situation. All the modules encourage the student to relate the learning to their clinical area.
The course is appropriate for ward or clinic based health practitioners and for more specialist practitioners. The course is flexible enough to allow the learning to be tailored to any clinical setting, this is important as Tissue Viability is one of the few areas of practice which literally covers from cradle to grave. Practitioners from all areas of health will benefit from this course, midwifery, mental health and learning disabilities are increasingly needing tissue viability specialists working within these specialities. The course is also relevant to allied health practitioners such as podiatry.

ASSESSMENT
The formal assessment methods include case studies, auditing of aspects of a service, clinical competencies, reflection.
Informal assessment methods include: discussion forums, quizzes, critiquing published literature and journal articles.
Practical experience will specific to the individual modules for example bandaging and Doppler for leg ulcer care, practicing sharp debridement to gain experience of scalpel technique and tissue management.
For the modules relating to leg ulcers, debridement and pressure ulceration the student must be working within the relevant clinical area or have access to such a clinical area so competency documents can be completed, the university does not offer clinical placements for these modules, the student must be working within an appropriate setting.
The course will use a variety of teaching methods. There will be taught elements and opportunities for students to participate in discussions both in the classroom and on-line. There will also be resources and activities to undertake on-line.

The course covers all the main components of the elements of tissue viability the range of subjects being:

- **Wound Management Practice** – this is the core double module
- **The student will then choose two from the following:**
  - Leg Ulcer Practice
  - Debridement Practice
  - Prevention and Treatment of Pressure Ulcers

All the modules will be subject-specific focused, looking at anatomy and physiology of healing, assessment methods, management methodologies, psychological aspects of the condition. There will also be a review of the effects of the condition on society as a whole. Aspects related to management of the specific service will also be included enabling the practitioner to gain a trust-wide perspective and issues related to enabling others within the organisation to provide clinically effective tissue viability care.

Students are able to undertake any of these modules as standalone modules if not wanting to commit to a full degree programme at this time.

Following completion of the pathway, the student could top up to a full honours degree. The degree is also a stepping stone to Masters level study.

In addition, generic info ref CATS is below for consideration.

The pathway will also enable you to enrol for individual modules if you wish to update your skills and knowledge (in a specific area) but do not wish to go on to gain an academic award. You can simply gain CATS points to put towards further study if desired.

A degree is a pre-requisite for most Clinical Specialist posts and this pathway would fulfil the requirements of a post as a Tissue Viability Specialist.

The pathway has enhanced the position of past students within their organisation who were already working within Tissue Viability posts and allowed others to successfully attain posts as Tissue Viability Specialists either within their own or other organisations.

For more information please contact:
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For information with regards to future open days please visit www.bcu.ac.uk/healthopendays

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