

Unit Outline (Higher Education)

Institute / School:	Institute of Health and Wellbeing
Unit Title:	Complex Spine and Pain Presentations
Unit ID:	NHPPS3115
Credit Points:	15.00
Prerequisite(s):	(NHPPS4001) OR (NHPPS4101 and NHPPS4817)
Co-requisite(s):	Nil
Exclusion(s):	Nil
ASCED:	061701

Description of the Unit:

The unit will focus on the theoretical and biological principles that guide and justify the assessment of factors influencing pain. Further, the unit will focus on interventions which include working with people to manage the challenges associated with their pain. The unit emphasises integration of pain sciences into clinical reasoning models used to manage common clinical pain states, including spinal pain. Student will have the opportunity to further develop and refine their manual skills commonly used to manage spinal pain. This unit builds on the knowledge and skills acquired from previous learning and will draw together biopsychosocial knowledges and selected psychomotor skills to clinically reason through the complexity of the pain experience, from acute through to persistent pain scenarios.

Grade Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, P, MF, F, XF)

Work Experience:

Not wholly work experience: Student is not undertaking work experience in industry or student is undertaking work experience in industry where learning and performance is directed by the provider.

Placement Component: No

Supplementary Assessment: Yes

Where supplementary assessment is available a student must have failed overall in the Unit but gained a final mark of 45 per cent or above, has completed all major assessment tasks (including all sub-components where a task has multiple parts) as specified in the Unit Description and is not eligible for any other form of supplementary assessment

Course Level:

Level of Unit in Course	AQF Level of Course					
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Introductory	■	■	■	■	■	■
Intermediate	■	■	■	■	■	■
Advanced	■	■	✓	■	■	■

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Build a deeper understanding of the complexity of the human experience of pain.
- K2.** Describe the biological, psychosocial, and pathophysiological factors that contribute to the pain experience.
- K3.** Explain the biopsychosocial model and its relevance to pain, individuals' responses to pain, and the impact of pain on one's life.
- K4.** Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the knowledge base around the key biological systems: the nervous, neuroendocrine, neuroimmune, and the motor systems, and their common links with pain.

Skills:

- S1.** Competently assess and measure the biological, physical, and psychosocial factors that contribute to pain, impairment, and disability using valid and reliable outcome measures.
- S2.** Safely and effectively select and apply manual skills as appropriate for managing pain scenarios.
- S3.** Demonstrate proficient clinical reasoning to select the appropriate components of pain science education, motivational interviewing and manual treatment strategies in the assessment and management of pain.

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Develop an evidence-based management plan in collaboration with the patient, directed at modifying pain and encouraging helpful behaviours, promoting tissue healing, improving function, reducing disability, and facilitating recovery.
- A2.** Apply advanced effective communication skills, taking into consideration the various biopsychosocial components, in the management of any pain presentation.
- A3.** Communicate appropriate information to other health professionals involved in providing patient-centred care to optimize multidisciplinary management, including allied health, medical, psychological, and pharmacological approaches.
- A4.** Demonstrate the safe and effective selection and implementation of relevant manual handling approaches as appropriate for pain scenarios.

Unit Content:

Topics may include:

- Defining pain - IASP
- Biomedical and Biopsychosocial perspectives
- Contemporary models of pain
- Understanding and assessing nociceptive pain and nociplastic pain
- Pain system sensitivity
- Peripheral nerve anatomy
- Neurodynamics and neuropathic pain
- The neuroimmune system and stress-immune interactions
- Psychosocial stress & pain

- Assessing and managing people with persistent pain
- Flag frameworks

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K2, K3, S3, A1, A2, A3	Educational resource on clinical scenario	Digital presentation	15-25%
K2, S1, A1, A2, A4	Skills Mastery	Practical assessment	10-20%
K2, K3, K4, S1, S2, A1, A3, A4	Objective structured clinical examination	Practical Examination	20-40%
K1, K2, K3, K4, S1, A1, A3	Content from classroom and practical sessions	Written Final Examination	35-55%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA

Refer to the [library website](#) for more information

Fed Cite - [referencing tool](#)