

# Heart Failure Level 6 module

**This course is no longer offered by Education for Health and this information is retained here for students completing the BSc programme, and the final students completing this course.**

This Heart Failure Level 6 module is aimed at any health care professional who participates in the delivery and management of care for people with chronic heart failure, their families and carers. The heart failure module allows the acquisition of both practical skills and clinical knowledge necessary to manage the complex needs of patients and carers from the early diagnostic phase through to end of life. In addition, it equips the student with a broader understanding of the multi-systems approach to disease management and strategic service development.

On completion of the course successful students will be able to suggest, initiate and vary treatment in response to individual needs. They will demonstrate sound knowledge of the literature relevant to chronic heart failure in relation to the delivery of holistic, evidence based care to patients, their families and carers and will demonstrate an understanding of strategic service development and a multi-systems, collaborative approach to disease management.

This module is validated by The Open University.

## Why choose this module?

Benefits include:

- The opportunity to network with fellow students from a range of disciplines and specialties.
- Access to experts.
- Individuals will be able to challenge current practice and embed evidence based practice into their delivery of care.
- Greater job satisfaction which leads to a deeper commitment to service delivery and patient care.
- Opportunity to build to a Diploma in Higher Education or BSc (Honours) degree.
- Gaining academic credit for a named award. A number of credits is assigned to each module, which indicates the amount of learning undertaken, and the specified credit level indicates the relative depth of learning involved. Credit is a means of quantifying and recognising learning whenever and wherever it is achieved. Credit may also help you transfer to another programme either within Education for Health or at a different institution.
- Upon the completion of this module students should possess the qualities and knowledge to assist their further development as professionals.

## What will I study?

The subjects covered will include:

- Anatomy, physiology and epidemiology of heart failure.
- The impact of Co-morbidities.

- Assessment (including signs and symptoms, investigations & diagnosis, and quality of life assessment).
- Prevention strategies.
- Pharmacological and non-pharmacological management strategies including the use of devices and role of transplant.
- Professional, moral & ethical issues as they relate to heart failure management including end of life care.
- Holistic care and patient choice.
- Psychosocial impact of the disease.
- Self-care, care pathways, multi disciplinary working.
- Communication to influence change.
- Evaluation of care and service delivery strategies.

## **Level of study and credit value**

This is a Level 6 module, which carries 30 CATS (Credit Accumulation Transfer Scheme) points.

## **Where will I study and for how long?**

This is a six months eLearning course with optional study days. It has a notional study time of 300 hours which includes time to study learning materials, attend study days where relevant, and complete assessments.

This module is delivered by blended learning, with study days to support the online course. Please note that if low numbers of students book onto this module we may cancel study days at short notice. If this is the case, students already registered will be contacted by our Finance Team and can choose to continue with the course as distance only, or be refunded.

Our study days are optional, although we advise that you attend if you possibly can, as students tell us that they learn a lot from the face to face contact with their tutor and that networking with other students is particularly useful.

The location of study days is determined by the cohort you choose to join.

## **How is this module assessed and what is the criteria for a pass?**

### **Part 1 – Assignment 1**

Students are required to submit an assignment of 2,000 words discussing the availability, uses and limitations of various diagnostic modalities as recommended in national and international guidelines for the management of chronic heart failure. It must illustrate an in-depth understanding of pathophysiology of heart failure and its relevance to the use of the various diagnostic tests. Assignment 1 comprises 40% of the total module mark.

### **Part 2 – Assignment 2**

Students are required to submit a case study of 3,000 words. This consists of a detailed case study of a hospital or community based patient with chronic heart failure who has complex medical and / or psychosocial needs. Utilising relevant evidence it must demonstrate in-depth analysis of the issues for the patient, carer and multi disciplinary team. The assignment component comprises 60% of the overall module mark.

### **Criteria for a pass**

The pass mark for the module is 40% in each element of assessment and 40% overall. Reassessment is as per regulations in the Student Guide.

## **Can I take this module as part of a programme?**

Successful completion of single modules results in the awarding of academic credits that could be used as part of a DipHE/BSc (Hons) degree programme, though this would always be at the discretion of the academic institution where you intended to undertake the programme.

Since September 2019, Education for Health no longer offers DipHE/BSc (Hons) programmes.

Successful completion of a level 6 module can also enable progression onto an MSc programme at Education for Health, as you could be eligible to bring in up to 30 credits at level 6 through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).

[More information on our MSc programmes can be found here](#), or contact our Programme Team to discuss your individual circumstances at [programmes@educationforhealth.org](mailto:programmes@educationforhealth.org).

### **What are the entry requirements for this module?**

All applicants for The Open University validated modules must be registered or working within the UK. All applicants should have sufficient competency in the English Language to successfully study at Level 5/6.

All learning materials, teaching and assessment are conducted in the English language. Students will need to apply this to an academic environment.

It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that they have sufficient proficiency in the English Language to undertake the module or programme to which they are registered.

If you plan to undertake one of our programmes, further entry requirements are required, please refer to our [admissions policy](#).

### **Further information**

We are committed to equality of opportunity. Our Disability Coordinator and Student Support Team provide advice and information and coordinate arrangements for students. View our [Support for Students with a Disability here](#).

Students have access to the eLearning materials for 18 months from the start date of their module.