Protecting the public through quality assurance of nursing and midwifery education

Nursing & Midwifery Council

Programme Audit/Major Modification report

Programme provider:	Chester, University of
In partnership with: (Associated practice placement providers involved in the delivery of the programme)	Bridgewater Community NHS Trust - NHS Halton and St Helens Community Isle of Man Department Health and Social Care - Community Bridgewater Community NHS Trust NHS Warrington Cheshire & Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust Wirral Community NHS Foundation Trust NHS Warrington Clinical Commissioning Group - Royal Liverpool & Broadgreen University Hospitals NHS Trust St Helen's & Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust East Cheshire NHS Trust Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Mid-Cheshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust - Hospital Warrington & Halton Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust North West Boroughs Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust Cheshire & Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust Isle of Man Department Health and Social Care - Mental Health Community Services Ramsey & District Cottage Hospital - Minor Injuries Unit Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group Warrington Community Living

	Mental Health Care UK Limited
	Tarporley War Memorial Hospital
	Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group
	GP services and medical centres
	Hospice specialist care/palliative care services
Date of review:	04 Sep 2019
Type of Modification	Desktop
Provision reviewed:	Specialist Practitioner - District Nursing (Mandatory Integrated Nurse Prescribing)
Title of current programme:	BSc / Grad Dip / MSc / PG Dip District Nursing with integrated V100 Nurse Prescribing
Title of modified programme if changed:	
Academic level of current programme:	England, Wales, Northern Ireland ☐ Level 5 ☒ Level 6 ☒ Level 7 SCQF ☐ Level 8 ☐ Level 9 ☐ Level 10 ☐ Level 11
Academic level of modified programme if changed:	England, Wales, Northern Ireland ☐ Level 5 ☐ Level 6 ☐ Level 7 SCQF ☐ Level 8 ☐ Level 9 ☐ Level 10 ☐ Level 11
Reviewer:	Dr Heather Bain

Outcome of Approval Panel Meeting	
Outcome:	Recommended for approval
Conditions and NMC standard(s)/requirement(s) they relate to:	**Resources** None identified **Admission and progression** None identified **Practice learning** None identified **Fitness for practice** None identified **Quality assurance** None identified
Date conditions to be met:	
Recommendations and NMC standard(s)/requirement(s) they relate to: **Note: recommendations will be assessed through the AEI annual self-assessment report**	None identified
Date conditions met:	
Programme start date:	23 Sep 2019

Summary

Summary of modification request

The University of Chester (UoC), an approved education institution (AEI), is approved to deliver the specialist practitioner qualification district nursing (SPQ DN) with mandatory integrated V100 nurse prescribing programme since re-approval in 2013. The current programme is approved until the end of August 2020.

The UoC presented documentation for a major modification to transfer from the Standards to support learning and assessment in practice (SLAiP) (NMC, 2008) to the Standards for student supervision and assessment (SSSA) (NMC, 2018) within the current approved SPQ DN programme.

Documentary evidence confirms the programme team has engaged with students, service users and practice learning partners (PLPs) to consider this modification. The associated PLPs and north west practice education group (NWPEG) support the proposed changes to practice supervision and assessment to meet the SSSA. There are four AEIs in the Cheshire and Merseyside (C and M) university consortium which include UoC. The consortium has an established collaborative relationship in developing shared systems to ensure NMC approved programmes comply with regulatory standards. The consortium, in collaboration with practice learning partners (PLPs) agree to transfer all students to the SSSA from September 2019.

The supervisors and assessors' subgroup from the C and M curriculum and validation group have developed guidance, role descriptors and supporting information on the SSSA. Documentary evidence confirms there are clear and comprehensive arrangements in place to prepare practice supervisors, practice assessors and academic assessors for their new roles to meet the SSSA from September 2019.

Resources and governance processes are in place to support the programme and practice learning and assessment in practice are in place. The SSSA are met at programme level.

The modification is recommended to the NMC for approval.

Feedback from key stakeholders

Presenting Team

Desktop review. Teleconference with representatives from the programme teams on

4 September 2019.

Mentors, sign-off mentors, practice teachers and employers

Not applicable - Desktop review

Students

Not applicable - Desktop review

Service users and carers

Not applicable - Desktop review

Examples of notable and innovative practice and standards they relate to

None identified

Potential risks to compliance of education standards and standards they relate to

None identified

Potential risks to the student learning environment and standards they relate to

None identified

Any other risks to public protection

None identified

Areas for future monitoring

• The implementation of the SSSA.

Outcome recommendation
The major modification is recommended to the NMC for approval.

Protecting the public through
quality assurance of nursing
and midwifery education

Nursing &
Midwifery
Council

NMC Standards
Please refer to the [Standards for specialist education and practice (NMC, 2001)](#), current programme specific circulars accessed via the [NMC Website](#) and Section one of the Mott MacDonald [QA Handbook](#).

Recording the qualification of specialist practice
Standard 9: Entry Requirements
An entry on the relevant and appropriate part of the register

Have completed a period of experience of sufficient length to have consolidated **pre-registration outcomes** and to have gained a deeper understanding in relevant professional practice. |
| **What we found:** |
| No changes are made to the entry criteria for the programme. However, changes have been made to the application process to reflect the SSSA.

Practice supervisors and practice assessors will be identified by the practice education facilitator (PEF) within the relevant PLP. Documentary evidence confirms the practice supervisor and practice assessor will not be the same individual. Within the admission process practice supervisors and practice assessors will be contacted by the programme team to confirm their role in supporting students and to ensure they are prepared for the role.

Prior to the programme commencing there is an induction event where students meet their practice supervisor and practice assessor. |

Outcome:	Standard met
Date standards met:	
Revised outcome:	

Standard 9.4: Length and content of programme

- No less than first degree level

- No less than 32 weeks

- 50 percent theory and 50 percent practice

Key Principles :

- Combination of core and specific modules – core no less than 1/3 and no more than 2/3 of total

- A coherent programme of learning

- Flexible modes of delivery

- Linked to higher education accreditation

- Credit for APL and APEL

What we found:

There is no change to this standard since the re-approval in 2013.

Outcome:	Standard met
Date standards met:	
Revised outcome:	

Standard 11: Learning Outcomes

- Clinical Nursing Practice
- Care and Programme Management
- Clinical Practice Leadership
- Clinical Practice Development

What we found:	
There is no change to this standard since approval in 2013.	
Outcome:	Standard met
Date standards met:	
Revised outcome:	

Standard 12: Content of education for common core	
• Content	
What we found:	
There is no change to tis standard since approval in 2013.	
Outcome:	Standard met
Date standards met:	
Revised outcome:	

Core Standards 13: Common Core Learning Outcomes
• Clinical Nursing Practice • Care and Programme Management • Clinical Practice Leadership • Clinical Practice Development
What we found:

The common core learning outcomes are unchanged since the original approval in 2013. The supervision and assessment process to support students to achieve the outcomes in practice learning have been changed to meet the SSSA.

The C and M university consortium has an established collaborative relationship in developing shared documents which include practice supervisor, practice assessor and academic assessor roles and preparation materials.

The UoC provides generic preparation and guidance for the roles of practice supervisor, practice assessor and academic assessor. There are specific programme handbooks at academic level six and seven and practice assessment documentation which are updated to identify the roles and responsibilities of the practice supervisor, practice assessor and academic assessor. There is only one part to the SPQ DN programme with the practice assessor and academic assessor the same person throughout.

Documentary evidence states the practice assessor is a registered nurse with suitable equivalent qualifications for the programme the student is undertaking. Evidence confirms all intended academic assessors must have appropriate specialist practitioner qualifications and experience. Additionally, they must have or be working towards a recognised teaching qualification (postgraduate certificate) and have or be working towards fellowship of the higher education academy.

Preparation workshops for practice assessors and supervisors are delivered to all PLPs on a rolling programme basis during July and early September 2019. These workshops will now become a part of each PLP's existing mandatory annual training. The SSSA will be introduced through each PLP's monthly mandatory update session in partnership with the UoC. This will enable monitoring of progress and introduce new staff to the SSSA and facilitate ongoing development. Academic links in practice (ALPs) will be working in collaboration with the PEFs to deliver the workshops and

support and monitor progress.

All existing DN practice teachers will be informed of the changes and be invited to a practice assessor workshop in early September. These practice assessor workshops will be open to both practice supervisors and practice assessors of the SPQ DN programme and will be available at the start of each programme cohort.

There is a cross-AEI online practice assessment record and evaluation system (OPARE) that is adapted in preparation for the implementation of the SSSA. This will record and monitor the number practice supervisors and practice assessors in each practice learning area.

Academic staff prepared as academic assessors will visit students in practice learning areas each semester to meet the SSSA requirements. The meetings will be recorded within the student's portfolio. The academic assessor will work collaboratively with the student's nominated practice supervisor and practice assessor to discuss student conduct, proficiency and achievement.

Current students on the programme agree to transfer to the SSSA. They will attend a half day workshop to introduce them to the SSSA. Any student who is on interrupted study will transfer to the SSSA on their return. They will receive a session to introduce them to the SSSA. The programme team plan to provide newly qualified SPQs with a two- day workshop to prepare them to become practice supervisors and assessors.

Outcome:	Standard met
Date standards met:	
Revised outcome:	

Programme specific standards
Standards for entry

What we found:	
There is no change to this standard since approval in 2013.	
Outcome:	Standard met
Date standards met:	
Revised outcome:	

Programme specific standards	
Specific Learning outcomes • Clinical nursing practice • Care and programme management	
What we found:	
There is no change to this standard since approval in 2013.	
Outcome:	Standard met
Date standards met:	
Revised outcome:	

V100 Community Practitioner Nurse Prescriber	
Please indicate whether the V100 is an integrated or optional element of the Specialist practice programme.	Integrated
Please indicate whether the V100 is to be approved at this event or provide the date it was approved.	

What we found:	
A major modification desktop was undertaken to transfer the V100 programme from the SLAiP to the SSSA. The modification is recommended to the NMC for approval (see separate report).	
Outcome:	Standard met
Date standards met:	
Revised outcome:	

NMC Circular 03/2011 - Resources to support programme intentions

Programme providers must provide evidence at programme approval that resources are currently available to support programme intentions.

What we found:

Documentary evidence and discussion with the UoC provides assurance that resources are in place in the university and associated PLPs to support the programmes and implement and support the SSSA requirements. A partnership agreement is updated and signed by the C and M university consortium dated 30 May 2019.	
Outcome:	Standard met
Date standards met:	
Revised outcome:	

Evidence and references list
Academic assessor template, version three, undated
Practice assessor template version two, undated
Practice supervisor template version three, undated
NWPEG terms of reference, February 2019
C and M partnership agreement, 30 May 2019
NWPEG fact sheet: transition from mentor to practice supervisor and assessor, undated
Academic assessor handbook, undated
Practice assessor preparation handbook, undated
Practice supervisor preparation handbook, undated
Academic assessor learning outcomes: understanding professional assessment of learners in practice, undated
Learning outcomes for understanding professional supervision of learners in practice, dated
Academic InPlace audit system user guide, 2018
Faculty practice learning committee (terms of reference), 2018-2019
Consultation letter to stakeholders, undated

Educational leads meeting notes, 20 May 2019

UoC NMC supervision assessment practice organisation checklist, undated

NWPEG academic assessor self-declaration form, undated

NWPEG practice supervisor self-declaration form, undated

NWPEG practice assessor self-declaration form, undated

Overview of SSSA practice assessment models in C and Mersey, undated

UoC SPC practice learning skills portfolio, dated September 2018

UoC SPC practice learning skills portfolio, dated September 2019

UoC BSc SPC programme handbook, revised 2019

UoC BSc SPC programme handbook 2020, revised 2019

UoC MSc SPC programme handbook revised 2019, undated

UoC MSc SPC programme handbook 2020, revised 2019

Mapping document providing evidence of how the SSSA apply to the programme, May 2019

UoC proposed strategy to prepare practice supervisors and assessors, undated

UoC practice learning handbook for practice supervisors and assessors specific to the programme, undated

UoC academic assessor focused information specific to the programme, undated

Personnel supporting programme approval
Members of Approval Panel   Desktop review
Programme Presenters   Desktop review.   QA visitor had a teleconference on 4 September 2019 with representatives from the programme teams: •   Senior lecturer and programme leader for district nursing programme   •   Senior lecturer and programme leader for non-medical prescribing   •   Head of public health and wellbeing   •   Deputy head of public health and wellbeing   •   Senior lecturer and module leader for V150 and V100 programmes

Protecting the public through
quality assurance of nursing
and midwifery education

- Senior lecturer and specialist community public health nursing programme leader
- Senior lecturer and module leader for V300 programme

Were any service providers visited?
Not applicable - Desktop review

Meetings with others	
Mentors / sign-off mentors	
Practice teachers	
Service users / Carers	
Practice Education Facilitator	
Director / manager nursing	
Director / manager midwifery	
Education commissioners or equivalent	
Designated Medical Practitioners	
Other (please specify)	

If there were no representatives present during the approval event please state why:

Not applicable - Desktop review

Meetings with students

Nursing					
Adult		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Mental Health		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4

Children's		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Learning Disabilities		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Midwifery (3 year)		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	
Midwifery (18 month)		Year 1	Year 2		
SCPHN		HV	SN	OH	FHN	RPHN
Learning and Assessment in Practice		Mentor	Practice Teacher	Teacher
Nurse Prescribing		V100	V150	V300
Specialist Practice		Adult	Mental Health	Children's
		Learning Disability	General Practice Nursing	Community Mental Health Nursing
		Community Learning Disabilities Nursing	Community Children's Nursing	District Nursing

Additional evidence viewed

No additional evidence was viewed.

Mott MacDonald Group Disclaimer

This document is issued for the party which commissioned it and for specific purposes connected with the captioned project only. It should not be relied upon by any other party or used for any other purpose.

We accept no responsibility for the consequences of this document being relied upon by any other party, or being used for any other purpose, or containing any error or omission which is due to an error or omission in data supplied to us by other parties.

Issue record			
Author:	Heather Bain	Date:	05 Sep 2019
Checked by:	Judith Porch	Date:	28 Sep 2019
Approved by:	Leeann Greer	Date:	30 Sep 2019