

Overview

Atrial Fibrillation (AF) remains the most common sustained cardiac arrhythmia affecting around 1-2% of the population and its prevalence is estimated to double over the next 50 years. The major risk of AF is stroke. In addition AF is associated with several other adverse clinical outcomes: hospitalisations are frequent and there can be a substantial impact on exercise capacity and quality of life; there may be an association with cognitive decline and vascular dementia.

Developed in collaboration with the Atrial Fibrillation Association, the aims of this 30 master's level credits award are to equip the practitioner with the knowledge and skills to detect, diagnose and manage atrial fibrillation and to develop services in the community to optimise the management of people with atrial fibrillation.

The module is a combination of taught and work-based learning and takes six months to complete.

The clinical teaching is delivered by specialists in the field of atrial fibrillation. Online resources to support the academic elements of the course are available through the University of Bradford and AFA websites. In addition, there is input from AFA on understanding the impact of atrial fibrillation on the individual and their family.

Groups will normally be no larger than 12 students.

A range of assessments will guide and test your learning for both practical and theoretical aspects.

Students will work alongside a local specialist during their clinical attachment.

Community Management of Atrial Fibrillation

This 30 master's level credits module has been developed in collaboration with the AFA (Atrial Fibrillation Association).

Examples of areas of study on placement

Diagnose atrial fibrillation and arrange for and interpret the results of appropriate investigations with an understanding of the limitations of these investigations;

Develop and manage a personalised care plan for the control of heart rate and rhythm; Refer people appropriately to specialist care when required and understand the place of the specialist therapies available to treat atrial fibrillation;

Perform a full assessment for the risk of thromboembolism in an individual and offer appropriate antithrombotic medication;

Understand the psychological and social impact of the diagnosis and management of atrial fibrillation on an individual and their family;

Audit the management of atrial fibrillation within your practice and perform a full audit cycle, developing systems to improve the management of people with atrial fibrillation and demonstrate evidence of that improvement;

Critically assess alternative patient pathways for the management of atrial fibrillation in the community;

To qualify for a place on the course we require you to:

Be a registered health care professional working in the community, eg a GP, a practice nurse or a pharmacist.

Be able to provide evidence of support from an NHS clinician appropriate to atrial fibrillation who will offer mentor supervision and enable your local, work-based clinical attachment.

For further information and to obtain an

application pack, please contact

psi@bradford.nhs.uk