

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2021-22: PGCert in Patient Safety



About the course

As a healthcare professional taking the Postgraduate Certificate in Patient Safety, you will gain a deeper understanding of quality improvement and systems changes to create better patient outcomes.

The Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert) is a part-time course for healthcare professionals, offered by the Department for Continuing Education in collaboration with the Nuffield Department of Surgical Sciences. It can be completed in one year (though two years is possible), and consists of three modules, each a week long and taught in Oxford. The department provides online support and e-Library access for distance learning on either side of the Oxford weeks.

The PGCert in Patient Safety is designed to provide an understanding of:

- the basic science behind quality improvement methods
- the techniques for implementing, sustaining and measuring systems change
- the techniques for exploring and evaluating the effect of different approaches to improving safety in healthcare.

There is a growing evidence base that quality improvement and human factors-based projects in healthcare have real impact on clinical outcomes for patients. The University of Oxford has a strong research base in patient safety, and this course benefits from the researchers' intensive collaboration with clinicians.

The course will appeal to doctors, nurses, managers, and other healthcare professionals who have an interest in patient safety.

You will attend two core modules and one option module. The core modules are:

- Quality Improvement Science and Systems Analysis
- Human Factors, Teamwork and Communication

Your option module is chosen from:

- Leadership and Management in Health Care
- Becoming a Clinical Educator
- Healthcare Innovation and Technology

Each module will comprise one week's intensive teaching in Oxford through the use of lectures, workshops, seminars and practical sessions. Modules are constructed to include independent learning, to develop your knowledge and understanding of the subject, as well as group working and discussion. They include a period of preparatory study, and are followed by a period for assignment work. It is expected that students will spend 10-15 hours per week in private study in addition to time spent in classes or participating in on-line learning. It is expected that students will spend 10-15 hours per week in private study when completing their assignments in addition to time spent in classes or participating in on-line learning.

Supervision

The allocation of graduate supervision for this course is the responsibility of Department for Continuing Education and/or the Nuffield Department of Surgical Sciences and it is not always possible to accommodate the preferences of incoming graduate students to work with a particular member of staff. Under exceptional circumstances a supervisor may be found outside the Department for Continuing Education and/or the Nuffield Department of Surgical Sciences.

Assessment

Students must complete two core modules and one option module, taken in any order.

Students are encouraged to complete a formative assignment during their first module in order to provide informal feedback and to ensure that they have a good understanding of the level of output required. After each module, students will be required to produce a written assignment of up to 4,000 words.

The written assignments will encourage students to demonstrate a detailed knowledge and understanding of the subject areas covered, and will provide them with the opportunity to develop their critical appraisal and written presentation skills.

Changes to courses

The University will seek to deliver this course in accordance with the description set out above. However, there may be situations in which it is desirable or necessary for the University to make changes in course provision, either before or after registration. These may include significant changes made necessary by a pandemic (including Covid-19), epidemic or local health emergency. For further information, please see the University's Terms and Conditions (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/terms>) and our page on changes to courses (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/coursechanges>).

Expected length of course

	Part Time Only
Expected length	1 to 2 years

Costs

Modular course fees

The fees for this course are charged on a modular basis. You will pay an annual course fee and an additional fee for each module studied. A minimum of one annual course fee is payable for this course. If this course includes a dissertation, three module fees will be charged for the dissertation.

Fees for the 2021-22 academic year

Fee status	Annual Course Fee	Fee per module	Total estimated fees
Home (UK, Republic of Ireland, Channel Islands & Isle of Man)	£1,665	£2,080	Please see the department's website for further details
Overseas (including EU)	£7,850	£2,080	

Course fees are payable each year, for the duration of your fee liability (your fee liability is the length of time for which you are required to pay course fees). For courses lasting longer than one year, please be aware that fees will usually increase annually. Information about how much fees and other costs may increase is set out in the University's Terms and Conditions.

Course fees cover your teaching as well as other academic services and facilities provided to support your studies. Unless specified in the additional cost information (below), course fees do not cover your accommodation, residential costs or other living costs. They also don't cover any additional costs and charges that are outlined in the additional cost information.

Additional cost information

This course has residential sessions in Oxford. You will need to meet your travel and accommodation costs in attending these sessions.

Living costs

In addition to your course fees, you will need to ensure that you have adequate funds to support your living costs for the duration of your course.

If you are studying part-time your living costs may vary depending on your personal circumstances but you must still ensure that you will have sufficient funding to meet these costs for the duration of your course.

The likely living costs for 2021-22 are published below. These costs are based on a single, full-time graduate student, with no dependants, living in Oxford. We provide the cost per month so you can multiply up by the number of months you expect to live in Oxford.

Likely living costs for 2021-22

	Likely living costs for 1 month		Likely living costs for 9 months		Likely living costs for 12 months	
	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£280	£400	£2,520	£3,600	£3,360	£4,800
Accommodation	£655	£790	£5,895	£7,110	£7,860	£9,480
Personal items	£130	£250	£1,170	£2,250	£1,560	£3,000
Social activities	£45	£115	£405	£1,035	£540	£1,380
Study costs	£45	£100	£405	£900	£540	£1,200
Other	£20	£55	£180	£495	£240	£660
Total	£1,175	£1,710	£10,575	£15,390	£14,100	£20,520

When planning your finances for any future years of study at Oxford beyond 2021-22, you should allow for an estimated increase in living expenses of 3% each year.

More information about how these figures have been calculated is available at www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/livingcosts.

Document accessibility

If you require an accessible version of the document please contact Graduate Admissions and Recruitment by email (graduate.admissions@admin.ox.ac.uk) or via the online form (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/ask>).