


DIPHE OPERATING DEPARTMENT PRACTICE (SOUTH WEST)

This exciting programme, delivered with the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation trust, as part of a wider peninsular partnership, prepares you to play a vital role as an Operating Department Practitioner delivering patient care as part of the team in the anaesthetic, surgical or post-anaesthetic care setting.

Tariff Points: 88 UCAS points

Duration: Two years (full-time)

Fees: See website

 bcu.ac.uk/odp-diphe-hospital-campus

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KEY FACTS

- We are one of the largest Operating Department Practice education and training providers in the UK - and one with a deserved reputation for excellence.
- You'll learn the practical and theoretical aspects of being an effective practitioner. Across the three main spheres of practice, anaesthetics, surgery and

post-anaesthetic care; building your confidence as a practitioner.

- The delivery of the theoretical components of the programme will be based at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital. This will also give you access to practice your skills in modern, state of the art simulated environments.

- On successful completion of the programme you are eligible to apply to the Health and Care Professionals Council (HCPC) for registration as an Operating Department Practitioner; a greatly in demand healthcare profession.
- The course offers excellent potential for career development and almost all of our graduates go into work or further study within six months (95 per cent - DLHE).

COURSE OVERVIEW

The role of an Operating Department Practitioner is varied and dynamic; this specially designed two-year Diploma will prepare you to become a vital part of the operating theatre team, with a role that varies from day to day. Primarily employed within operating theatres to work as surgical, anaesthetic or recovery practitioners, Operating Department Practitioners assess, plan and deliver individualised patient care, in conjunction with other members of the healthcare team.

Operating Department Practitioners use their specialist knowledge and skills to ensure that every operation is as safe and effective as possible. This can range from checking specialist equipment and preparing medical devices to hands-on delivery of patient care, so versatility and adaptability are key functions of the role. You will also develop your communication and negotiation skills to promote patient wellbeing, and to ensure your patients' needs are met, whether these are physiological or psychological.

This course combines learning in the University setting with clinical practice at partner hospitals. You will spend around 60% of your time gaining experience in clinical practice, primarily within operating theatres within NHS trusts and independent healthcare providers throughout Cornwall, Devon and Somerset, but there are also opportunities for broader healthcare experiences e.g. in Emergency Departments, Intensive Care, elective placement opportunities.

Our Dip HE Operating Department Practice programme, thoroughly prepares you for work in the perioperative environment, and provides you with the transferable skills to work in other acute care settings.

Upon successful completion of the course, you will graduate with a Diploma of Higher Education in Operating Department Practice, and be eligible to apply for registration with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) as an Operating Department Practitioner (ODP). Our graduates are in demand nationally in both the NHS and independent sectors and we typically achieve a 100 per cent employment record for graduates.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Grades CCD (or equivalent) at A Level; or

- DD (or equivalent) at BTEC; or
- DD (or equivalent) at OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical; or
- 24 points from International Baccalaureate Diploma; or
- Access to Higher Education Diploma (see website); or
- Other qualifications equivalent to 88 UCAS points; plus
- Five GCSEs at A* - C (9 - 4) to include English language, mathematics and a science subject.

HOW IS THE COURSE DELIVERED?

We use a variety of teaching methods to help you get the most from your study, reflecting the subject matter and your individual needs.

From structured lectures to personal use of our multimedia facilities, we'll teach you how to:

- Work as part of a team
- Understand how an ODP fits into the team and what they do
- Understand the role played by other professionals
- Manage your clinical workload
- Make informed decisions
- Communicate effectively
- Adapt to different practice settings
- Adopt effective reporting and recording strategies

You will study 120 credits each at Level 4 and 5. There is a 60-40 split between blocks of study and clinical placement.

PLACEMENTS

You'll spend over half of your time on this course on work placement at one of our major Trust partners. These include the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust, Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust, Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust, Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, Taunton and Somerset NHS Foundation Trust and North Devon Healthcare NHS Trust. You may also experience placements with independent providers and in the community setting.

Placements are primarily within Operating Theatres but opportunities may be available for broader Healthcare experiences.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment methods include written assignments, poster presentations, examinations, simulations, staged tests, workshop exams and clinical placements.

Assessment takes place throughout the year to enable you to monitor your progress and obtain appropriate support.

EMPLOYABILITY

Upon registration as an ODP with the Health and Care Professionals Council (HCPC), you will be immediately able to work within a multi-disciplinary operating theatre team.

Although primarily employed within operating theatres, ODP's are increasingly recognised for their skills, clinical experience and knowledge, which are transferable to many healthcare settings, including:

- Anaesthesia, Resuscitation, Surgery, Transplant or Trauma Teams
- Post-Anaesthesia Care Unit (Recovery)
- Management
- Education
- Intensive Care Units
- Accident and Emergency
- Helicopter Emergency Medical Services
- Pre-Assessment Clinics
- Casting Rooms/Orthopaedic Clinics

FURTHER STUDIES

After completing this Diploma, there are many options for you to continue your studies. A comprehensive portfolio of post-registration courses called Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is available within the Faculty of Health, Education and Life Sciences. Visit www.bcu.ac.uk/healthcpd. Many are taught as part-time flexible modules to fit around your work and domestic commitments.

STUDENT QUOTE

"It's challenging... two years ago I never thought I would be in an operating theatre, standing there handing instruments to the surgeon; it's fantastic."

Patrick Power (DipHE Operating Department Practice student)