Certificate Course in “Clinical Nutrition”

Maharashtra University of Health Sciences

Introduction:
Nutrition related health problems can create a silent life threatening emergency. There is urgent necessity of instituting public health interventions for tackling these problems. Nutrition is very important component of every medical branch right from maternal, fetal to geriatrics. In most of medical and other health science specialties nutrition is not given due importance. It is very important to sensitize every health professional about new concepts of malnutrition like type I and II nutrients, obesity and other problems related to improper nutrition. Malnutrition among children below five years of age remains a major impediment to optimal human development in India. In the current Indian population of 1100 million, there would be about 132 million under five children (~12% of population), of which 6.4% or roughly 8 million can be assumed to be suffering from malnutrition. This certificate course is an effort to bridge the gap of nutrition in education of health professionals. This course is intended primarily for in professionals working in medical, ayurveda, Unani, homeopathy in the specialties of Pediatrics, Gynaecology, Medicine and oncology, Physiotherapists and nursing who need knowledge in basic and clinical Nutrition as it applies to disease pathogenesis and patient care. This course integrates basic and clinical nutritional principles as well as outlines the diagnosis and evaluation of nutritional disorders. This will require basic knowledge of pathophysiology, biochemical and clinical knowledge relevant to the most common nutritional diseases affecting different health systems. The participants will be given a thorough knowledge of basic nutrition and nutritional diseases which will help them in suspecting nutritional disorder. They can plan special diet in malnutrition, Obesity, cancer and HIV.

A. Overall goal:
To provide health and nutrition practitioners/professionals with a broad background and training in Nutrition and prepare them for career opportunities in a public health nutrition setting.

B. Aims and Objectives of the course:
- To provide a sound understanding of the science of nutrition and diseases.
- To provide advanced knowledge and skills in management of Nutrition related problems.
- To provide a scientific basis for assessment and management of nutritional problems of vulnerable populations
- To build capacities to undertake research projects in the area of Nutrition
- To enhance knowledge and skills for improving patient care, management and evaluation of community programs in Nutrition.
**Future Prospects:**

This certificate course will have the following future prospects for participants:

- Help clinicians in the management and early diagnosis and intervention in nutritional disorders.
- Knowledge would be of help in setting up a Nutrition Counseling cell.
- This course will be a major stepping stone to enter the field of national and international research related to nutrition.

**Eligibility:**

- Bachelor Degree from Medicine (Allopathy and/or interpathy).
- Health professionals working in Medicine/Pediatrics/Gynaecology/Surgery.
- Nursing /Physiotherapists.

**Reservations as per MUHS rules**

**Duration of the course:** Six months

**Language of Course:** English

**Total Number of Seats:** 20

**Fee structure:**

Total Fees Rs: 20,000/- only.

**Application Form & Information Brochure:**

The candidates are requested to download the application form and send it along with a D.D. of Rs. 500/- in favor of "Registrar, MUHS, Nashik". D.D. should be drawn on any Branch of Nationalized bank payable at Nashik. The envelope should be superscripted with “Certificate Course in Clinical Nutrition”.

The application form must be submitted on or before 31st August 2012 at the address given below.

**Selection Process:**

On the basis of Entrance and interview.

**Teaching Schedule and Modules –**

This is a six months course. Interactive sessions, panel discussion with experts, case scenarios, hospital and field visits.

**Assessment:**

- Written test /Project based viva
- Formative and summative assessment

Only successful candidates will be awarded certificate by the Maharashtra University of Health Sciences (MUHS).

**Future Plans of the Department**

The Department of Genetics, Immunology and Biochemistry plans to start the following courses:

1. Masters Public Health (MPH) in Public Health Nutrition
2. Research programmes designed for the degree of M.Phil. And Ph.D.

This certificate course in Clinical Nutrition will be the foundation course in Nutrition and the candidates will be able to pursue above said courses as well as will be able to enter the field of research in Nutrition.

**Address for Correspondence:**

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