

## Micro-Credentials

### Information Sheet and Descriptor

#### Definition (working)

**A micro-credential is a proof of the learning outcomes that a learner has acquired following a short learning experience. These learning outcomes have been assessed against transparent standards. The proof is contained in a certified document that lists the name of the holder, the achieved learning outcomes, the assessment method, the awarding body and, where applicable, the qualifications framework level and the credits gained. Micro-credentials are owned by the learner, can be shared, are portable and may be combined into larger credentials or qualifications. They are underpinned by quality assurance following agreed standards (**working definition approved by HCI Steering, 11 February 2021**).**

Micro-credentials – range of credits from 2.5\* ECTS, 5 ECTS, 10 ECTS.

\*Note: for the 2021/22 academic year micro-credentials will consist of 5 ECTS or 10 ECTS.

#### Micro-credentials:

- Consist of credit offered for continuing/professional development purposes.
- Are specifically designed to upskill the workforce.
- May be stackable.
- Offer flexible delivery to meet the needs of industry, business and employees.

**MC = Micro-Credential**

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### HCI Pillar 3

#### Micro-Credentials: Descriptor

HCI Cluster and Work Package for the proposed micro-credential:	Cluster 1: Work-package 1
To whom will the micro-credential be offered?	Specify the <i>specific industry/profession targeted</i> :  Registered Nurses and Midwives who wish to develop competency and expand their clinical practice to include referral for radiological procedures, as identified by Trinity's healthcare provider partners. This cohort includes nurses who are required to complete the MC to meet requirements set by the regulator, nurses and midwives in advanced practice roles, and nurse/midwife prescribers who require this module to allow for the expansion of their practice to the top of their licence. Practice nurses (in GP surgeries) may also be a new market for this MC.
Micro-credential title:	Nurse/Midwife Authority to Refer for Radiological Procedures
Is the proposed micro-credential a new or existing module (repurposed)?	New module/MC
<b>(For Existing Modules Only)</b>	
Existing module detail	<p><b><i>If this is an existing module to be repurposed as a micro-credential, please respond to the questions below. If not, proceed to the next section.</i></b></p> <p>State the name of the module and programme (<i>and enclose module descriptor if available</i>): This content is currently available as a component part of a validated 10ECTS module on the MSc Advanced Practice (Nursing) and MSc Advanced Practice (Midwifery) Programmes. NU7511 Prescribing Medicinal Products and Ionising Radiation</p> <p>Is the module shared with another discipline/School? If so, name the discipline/School: No</p> <p><b>Existing Module details:</b> PG</p>



	<p>Year 1</p> <p>No. of ECTS of module: 10ECTS</p> <p>NFQ level: 9</p> <p>School (owner and discipline): Nursing and Midwifery</p> <p>Module coordinator: Barry Mc Brien</p> <p>Code in SITS: NU7511</p> <p><i>If changes are required to the existing module so that it can exist coherently as a micro-credential please give details (please also outline how the existing module will meet the criteria of a micro-credential in terms of meeting the needs of industry and, providing flexible delivery):</i></p> <p>Content on referral for radiological procedures will be taught independently of the medication content in the NU7511 module for this MC. Students on the MC do not require the medication content.</p>	
<b>Micro-credential information</b>		
NFQ level (if applicable)	9	PG
ECTS	<p><i>Note: 5 ECTS: 100–125 hrs student effort (PG: 1 ECT: 25 hrs student effort)</i></p> <p>5</p>	
School (owner) and discipline	School of Nursing and Midwifery	
MC Coordinator (name) <i>(Must be academic / teaching staff)</i>	Dr Mary Hughes	
State other Schools/external organisations involved in the delivery of the micro-credential (if applicable)	St James's Hospital, Tallaght University Hospital	
Industry/profession	<b>Specify the industry/profession targeted by the micro-credential:</b>	



Trinity's healthcare provider partners (HCP) requested the development of this module to meet their service needs and to respond to a request from HIQA following recent site inspections in one HCP site. There is a large cohort of nurses who previously completed an unvalidated training programme within their service, who now require a validated module that meets the requirements and standards of the regulator for the referral of patients for radiological procedures. There is also a cohort of nurses and midwives in advanced practice roles, and nurse/midwife prescribers who require this module to allow for the expansion of their practice to the top of their licence. Practice nurses (in GP surgeries) may also be a new market for this MC.

**What market need is addressed by the micro-credential:**

This is a critical need for the delivery of holistic patient care by reducing waiting times and optimising patient outcomes through timely assessment across healthcare services. This MC expands the nurse/midwife's scope of practice to include radiological referral and allows them to practice at the top of their licence in meeting service need. This will reduce patient waiting times for radiological referral and will improve service efficiency. The need for training in this area been clearly highlighted by our HCPs and HIQA.

**State the industry/employer-related skills addressed by the micro-credential:**

Students who complete this module will meet the requirements and standards of the regulator-the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (NMBI) for Referral for Radiological Procedures. This encompasses the ability to critically utilise evidence-based knowledge and skill in conducting assessments and making referrals, clinical decision-making skills. Practice will be underpinned by the understanding of the legislative and regulatory framework including professional guidelines and supporting safe practice. There is an emphasis on effective communication skills.

**How will the delivery of this micro-credential facilitate industry/professional staff participation (flexible delivery – online/blended/face-to-face – evenings/weekends etc)?**

Classes will be co-streamed with NU7511 and delivered on designated days and online to facilitate attendance by MC learners. Staff will be released from clinical workload to attend the college days. Online lectures will be available for students to access live or as pre-recorded sessions on Blackboard. Online resources for directed learning will be available to students to facilitate flexibility for the learner and increase access.



Teaching staff & if appropriate institutional/industry affiliation	Name all teaching staff involved and if external, the name of the organisation. Dr Mary Hughes, Mr Barry McBrien, Ms Suzanne Drennan and Ms Elizabeth Sheils, Dr Yusra Sheikh and others from partner hospital sites.		
Min./max. number of students	Min. number of students: 5 Max. number of students: 30		
Mode of delivery	Blended Any further details:		
MC entry & admission requirements/pre-requisites (if applicable)	Evidence of completion of Physical Health Assessment module previously and/or of clinical support for their enrolment in the module and evidence of previous hospital/locally provided in-house education related to and practice of referring for radiological procedures for minimum 3 years.		
Proposed commencement date	November 21		
Micro-credential frequency, duration and term	<i>Frequency of delivery during the academic year:</i> once	<i>Duration of the MC (e.g. 6 weeks). If block delivery applies provide details:</i> 8 weeks	<i>Indicate term(s):</i> Michaelmas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hilary <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trinity <input type="checkbox"/>
Contact and independent study hours (include total)	<i>(1 ECTS = 25 hrs) Note: contact hours also relate to online delivery.</i> 30 hrs direct contact, 95 self-directed study/mentored practice (mandatory 30 hours teaching stipulated by the regulator for theoretical content to meet requirements and standards for safe practice)		
Micro-credential aims	To equip nurses/midwives with the necessary knowledge, skills, attitudes and competencies to refer persons for radiological and other imaging procedures safely and within the practitioner's scope of practice.		
Micro-credential learning outcomes (approx. 5)	Resources: <a href="#">Academic Practice</a> and <a href="#">QQI</a> <i>Note: Learning outcomes should stem from and align with the MC aims and start with an explicit and assessable verb.</i> On successful completion of this micro-credential, learners will be able to: LO 1 Demonstrate a systematic understanding of the regulatory framework associated with the referral of persons for medical radiological procedures including the legislation and professional guidelines, supporting safe practice within their scope of practice.		



	<p>LO 2 Critically utilise evidence-based knowledge, skill and competence in the holistic assessment and care of a person in the referral for medical radiological procedures.</p> <p>LO 3 Apply expert skills in decision making in relation to the referral of persons for appropriate medical radiological procedures.</p> <p>LO 4 Demonstrate and understanding of medical radiological procedures and other imaging procedures and their implications in a person’s safety.</p> <p>LO 5 Demonstrate knowledge of the role of the multidisciplinary team and effective communication processes involved in safe nurse/midwife authority to refer persons for medical radiological procedures</p> <p>LO 6 Know the justification process and understand the principles of radiation protection of the person and staff.</p>
<p>MC content areas. <i>(Bullet points can be used)</i></p> <p>If the MC (or components) will be delivered in a blended format, identify the content that will be delivered online.</p>	<p>Risk Management</p> <p>Evidence-based practice and clinical governance in relation to referring for medical radiological procedures</p> <p>Legislation for nursing/midwifery referral for medical radiological procedures</p> <p>Legal liability and clinical indemnity for referral for medical radiological procedures</p> <p>Principles of ionising radiation</p> <p>Radiation physics</p> <p>Radiation biology</p> <p>Imaging modalities</p> <p>Dosimetry</p> <p>Principles of the referral process for medical radiological procedures</p> <p>Collaboration referral process with other Health Care Professionals</p> <p>Principles of radiation protection</p> <p>The justification process</p> <p>Practical aspects of radiation protection in X-ray</p> <p>Radiation protection during pregnancy</p> <p>Radiation protection techniques</p> <p>Writing and processing an x-ray request form</p> <p>National and local health care providers’ guidelines, policies &amp; protocols for referral for medical radiological procedures</p>
<p>Teaching and Learning Methods (state pedagogical approach).</p> <p>Include the online environment(s) to deliver the MC e.g. Blackboard/Zoom, if appropriate.</p>	<p>Resources: <a href="#">Academic Practice</a></p> <p>Methods of teaching and student learning: Lecture, seminar, tutorial, online resources, clinical visits, community interaction. Synchronous teaching that may be in-person or online to allow for some flexibility but with mandatory Face to face content for clinical skills.</p>
<p>MC assessment components</p>	



<p><i>Please include the following...</i></p> <p><i>How will the MC be assessed?</i></p> <p><i>Indicate the LO assessed for each assessment (e.g. LO1 etc.)</i></p> <p><i>Indicate the % of overall mark each assessment is worth.</i></p> <p><i>Indicate if summative/formative (e.g. essay/research paper)</i></p>	<p><b>Assessment Component</b></p>	<p><b>Brief Assessment Description</b></p>	<p><b>LO Addressed</b></p>	<p><b>% of total</b></p>	<p><b>Week due</b></p>
<p>State how the MC will be reassessed if failed</p>	<p>Repeat submission of clinical portfolio with 10 new episodes of care demonstrating competency in referral for radiological procedures.</p>				
<p>Pass standard &amp; any special requirements for passing the MC</p>	<p>Resources: <u>Calendar II</u> and <u>Calendar III</u></p> <p>Pass/Fail</p>				
<p>Penalties for late submission</p>	<p>Students who submit work after the due date and time without an official extension from the Course Coordinator will forfeit that attempt and be recorded as 'Absent' or 'Absent; Reassess at Supplementals (AR)'. Any subsequent attempt at the assessment will be treated as a re-submission / repeat.</p>				
<p>Core reading (if applicable)</p>	<p>European Commission (2014) Guidelines on Radiation Protection Education and Training of Medical Professionals in the European Union (Radiation Protection No 175).Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union</p> <p>Fealy G., Casey M., Brady A.M., Hegarty J., Kennedy C., McNamara M., O'Reilly P.,Prizeman G. and Rohde D. (2014) National Review of the Scope of Nursing and Midwifery Practice Framework. Dublin: Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland</p> <p>Government of Ireland Nurses and Midwives Act 2011 (No. 41 of 2011) Irish Statute Book. Dublin. Government of Ireland.</p> <p>Government of Ireland (2018) European Union (Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Dangers Arising from Medical Exposure to Ionising Radiation) Regulations2018. Statutory Instrument No. 256 of 2018. Dublin: Stationery Office</p> <p>Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (2015) Scope of Nursing and Midwifery Practice Framework. Dublin: Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland.</p> <p>Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (2014) Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Registered Nurses and Registered Midwives. Dublin. Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland.</p>				



	Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (2020) Nurse Authority to Refer for Radiological Procedures. Standards and Requirements. Dublin, Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland
Are there subject experts in other Schools/disciplines?	Yes If yes, name of School and discipline School of Medicine- they are not involved in the delivery of NU7511 Has the MC been discussed with the School/discipline and DUTL/DTLP? No
Proposed student fee	External student fee TBC

**Faculty Dean and School Executive Approval:**

Date of approval of the proposed micro-credential by the School Executive:

Date of approval of financial information by Faculty Dean:

Signed by Head of School:

Date: 4/05/2021

Faculty Dean:

Date: 13 May 2021