

East of England Paediatric Critical Care Operational Delivery Network
Paediatric Critical Care level 1 course for registered nurses.

Outline

This course is designed to support registered nurses (both adult and child) working in all areas within the East of England network where children who are acutely unwell are cared for. This includes but is not limited to paediatric in-patient wards and emergency departments.

Entry requirements

Applicants must -

- be a registered nurse with current NMC registration
- be currently working in a unit providing paediatric critical care level 1 interventions and will continue to do so for the duration of the course.
- have the support of their line manager
- have completed their preceptorship programme
- have completed a paediatric Immediate Life Support course (pILS) within the last 12 months
- be up to date with all mandatory training including paediatric basic life support (BLS)
- not have previously enrolled in the East of England Paediatric Level 1 Critical Care Course.

Course delivery

The course will be delivered via a blended learning approach. There will be theoretical content delivered virtually over two days, face to face clinical skills workshops and the completion of on line components.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to -

- Perform an holistic assessment for a critically ill child (level 1 interventions) act on any concerns and escalate appropriately.
- Demonstrate the ability to safely undertake all skills relevant to the care of a child requiring level 1 interventions
- Be able to provide high quality holistic care for unwell children requiring level 1 critical care interventions.

Assessment

This is an academic course, successful completion of the course is measured by

- Timely completion of all elements (including those on line)
- OSCE - see assessment grid for marking
- Knowledge and Skills Passport (KSP)

Students must organise their time suitably to enable them to complete all elements, and ensure they can attend for your OSCE. Failure to complete or submit any element without discussing with the course lead will result in a fail being recorded against that element and a maximum score of 40% awarded on a second (and final) attempt.

Formative assessment

Will comprise the documentation of an observed A to E assessment of a child. An A to E assessment will be provided and the student is required to document the assessment and provide a written SBAR escalation for the patient.

Feedback will usually be provided but there is no mark allocated to this element.

Summative assessment

Will comprise three elements, **all elements** must be attempted, and **students must achieve a pass in all elements** in order to successfully pass the course:

- Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)
- Knowledge & Skills Passport (KSP)
- Completion of on line element

OSCE

A clinical skills assessment method based on objective testing through observation of student performance, against set criteria, of a simulated scenario. The four criteria that will be assessed during the OSCE are:

- 1) Carry out a systematic structured and timely patient assessment, responding to clinical need as you find.
- 2) Recognise signs of patient deterioration, and / or identify red flags.
- 3) Initiate appropriate interventions to meet clinical needs of patient in a timely and safe manner.
- 4) Appropriate documentation of the findings (using local observation charts/fluid charts / PEWS score as appropriate) and full assessment in the patient notes.

Candidates are required to demonstrate safe practice across the 4 elements, therefore a fail grade in any of the 4 criteria will result in an overall fail.

An allocated time slot will be given for the OSCE, with 10 minutes added for the documentation element. There is an additional 5 minutes assigned for questions from the assessors. Non attendance for the OSCE without prior agreement from the course lead constitutes a non submission. All OSCE assessments will be video recorded for the purposes of moderation, application for a place on the course constitutes acceptance of this.

Knowledge & Skills Passport

Comprising sections to demonstrate knowledge and skills, the document must be submitted to the local practice development nurse or course lead in fulfilment of the course assessment by the date given. Failure to do so without prior agreement from the course lead constitutes a non submission.

The KSF will be awarded on the basis of pass or fail.

You must ensure you organise your time suitably to enable you to complete all elements, and are able to attend for your OSCE. Failure to complete or submit any element without discussing with the course lead will result in a fail being recorded against that element and a maximum score of 40% awarded on a second attempt.

Online modules

Access to the learning management system will be given at the beginning of the course. Three modules will require to be completed in the given time and passed in order to be successful.

Extenuating Circumstance

If you are unable to submit any element or attend for your OSCE you must apply for extenuating circumstances by email to the course lead. Usually the maximum period of extension will be 2 calendar weeks. Your line manager will be informed of the circumstances in writing by the course lead. If you fail to agree with the terms set out by the course lead and / or line manager at this time this will constitute a fail and you will be removed from the course. There will be no further recourse to the ODN and the matter will be referred to your line manager.

Defer

Should you need to defer on any element of assessment, including the on line elements you must apply for a deferral to the course lead by email, your line manager will be informed of the circumstances in writing by the course lead. Usually the course will need to be completed within 2 years, however this will be considered on an individual basis. However, if you fail to agree with the terms set out by the course lead and / or line manager at this time, this will constitute a fail and you will be removed from the course. There will be no further recourse to the ODN and the matter will be referred to your line manager.

The course lead is a member of the Paediatric Critical Care Society Education Quality Assurance group, any student who does not meet the educational standards of the course, who fails, or is deferred will be identified to the EQA group.

Support for students

Students will be allocated a practice supervisor by the local PDN for the duration of the course, but can seek support from any senior member of staff who has successfully completed a critical care course over 1 year ago, and who has continued to practice in the critical care area.

The allocated mentor will be required to sign off the KSP.

Support for students will be primarily from the local practice development nurse / high dependency facilitator or lead nurse. The course lead will be available to assist with any issues and to escalate any concerns or for students who need further support. Students should seek membership of their trust and or RCN library to support their learning and for IT provision if necessary.

Students should seek support from their local PDN in the first instance, tutorial support will be available on request.