



ENGLISH NATIONAL BOARD FOR NURSING
MIDWIFERY AND HEALTH VISITING

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Circular 1986(14)ERDB
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TO DIRECTORS OF NURSE EDUCATION
SENIOR TUTORS IN SOLE CHARGE
COURSE LEADERS FOR DEGREES IN NURSING -
UNIVERSITIES
POLYTECHNICS
COLLEGES OF HIGHER & FURTHER EDUCATION

FOR INFORMATION TO -

- District (Chief) Nursing Officers
- Regional Nursing Officers
- Secretaries - Education Advisory Groups
- Professional/Staff Organisations
- National Board for Nursing, Midwifery
and Health Visiting for Northern Ireland
- National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and
Health Visiting for Scotland
- Welsh National Board for Nursing, Midwifery
and Health Visiting
- United Kingdom Central Council for
Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting

Dear Colleague

CRITERIA FOR THE APPROVAL OF COURSES LEADING TO A DEGREE IN NURSING
OR AN ASSOCIATED DEGREE WITH REGISTRATION ON PART 1 OF THE REGISTER

Please find enclosed the above-named Circular which has just been approved
by the Board.

Yours sincerely

DR E R D BENDALL
Chief Executive Officer



ENGLISH NATIONAL BOARD

CIRCULAR 1986(14)ERDB

CRITERIA FOR THE APPROVAL OF COURSES LEADING TO A DEGREE IN NURSING OR AN ASSOCIATED DEGREE WITH REGISTRATION ON PART 1 OF THE REGISTER

The Curriculum

The calculation of the **nursing component** hours is expressed as 4,600 hours to be divided thus - theoretical instruction = 1533 hours, clinical instruction = 2300 hours, therefore 767 hours remain and shall be apportioned according to the needs of the educational programme approved. A substantial proportion of hours apportioned to clinical instruction should enable the student to participate in the giving of nursing care.

*Hours?
total actual
quality?*

The UKCC Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Rules Approval Order 1983 states that courses shall provide opportunities to enable the student to acquire the competencies related to the care of the particular type of patient with whom she is likely to come into contact when registered in that part of the register for which the student intends to qualify.

The English National Board requires an educational programme which demonstrates internal consistency within an explicit nursing framework. Subsidiary subjects must be demonstrably relevant to nursing, and not studied as isolated entities.

Clinical Component

There must be a clear commitment from the health authority(ies) to involvement with the clinical components of the course with support from the academic institution.

Areas used for clinical practice should offer

- experience which is appropriate and predictable;
- learning opportunities which are identified and used by all staff concerned with nurses in training;
- adequate supervision and teaching by appropriately qualified staff;
- ward managers who are examiners and assessors;
- peer support for students;
- a problem-solving approach to individualised patient care;

- opportunities for nursing research findings to be applied to nursing; ✓
- opportunities for nurses to demonstrate enthusiasm in exploring nursing knowledge and skills; ✓
- opportunities to practice the principles taught. ✓

Selection of and allocation to these areas must be agreed with the Director(s) of Nurse Education for the school(s) of nursing.

Support?
Clinical/ward staff must be properly prepared for their teaching and supervisory role in the clinical/practical situation, for example via ENB courses 923 - Developments in Nursing Care, 998 - Teaching and Assessing in Clinical Practice. They should also have opportunities available for continued professional education.

Assessment and Evaluation

Explicit evidence of the mechanisms employed for evaluation of all major components for the course must be available for the curriculum development team and the English National Board. ✓

Explicit evidence of tools for the assessment of students ability to achieve the competencies must be available for the students, clinical nursing staff, the lecturers and the English National Board.

Clinical/ward staff must be fully prepared and involved in the assessment of the student in the clinical situation.

Teachers/Lecturers/Supervisors to the course

has to get the qualifications
The course leader must have the appropriate professional qualifications and a teaching certificate approved by the United Kingdom Central Council.

What is a appropriate
There must be an adequate number of appropriately qualified supporting teaching staff. The majority of those teaching the nursing component must have the appropriate professional qualification and a teaching certificate approved by the United Kingdom Central Council.

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There must be adequate provision of appropriately qualified and experienced staff to teach and directly supervise students in the clinical/practical aspects of the course.

There will be a variety of lecturers involved for other components of the course and they should be fully briefed by the course leader about

- the requirements and recommendations of the validating bodies;
 - the details of the course programme proposed by the course planning team;
- the part they are to teach so that it can be planned in detail;

- the relationship of their subject to other parts of the course so that the teaching can be co-ordinated;
- their part in assessing students progress;
- their part in evaluating the course.

If there are changes of teachers during the course, it is important that the new contributor is also fully briefed. ✓

Communications

An effective mechanism for liaison for all participating groups must be demonstrated.

Non-nursing lecturers, a tutor from the school(s) of nursing, and a member of the clinical nursing staff must be included in the curriculum planning and development team. ✓

Clinical/ward staff must be enabled to attend regular meetings with the university/polytechnic nursing staff. Health authority, school of nursing and all other teachers to the course must have available to them all the information relating to the course, and in particular the documentation for assessment and evaluation which relates to their particular area of responsibility.

Courses for an Associated Degree with Nursing

The nursing component is the responsibility of the Director of Nurse Education and must be developed by a curriculum planning team of similar composition to the team for the other nursing courses. ✓

Examinations and assessments for the nursing component must be arranged by the school of nursing and comply with the English National Board requirements. ✓

The degree study must be in a subject with components which can be supportive to the study of nursing and approved for this purpose by the English National Board. ✓