

Postgraduate Diploma in Stroke Care

Studying 100% online liberates you from time and place

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

The Postgraduate Diploma in Stroke Care delivers specialised training in all aspects of stroke treatment from pre-hospital care through to rehabilitation, return to the community, and research. As the first interprofessional stroke-specific tertiary qualification in Aotearoa New Zealand, this programme is for healthcare professionals engaged in the care of people and whānau with stroke, such as nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech language therapists, clinical exercise physiologists, counsellors, dietitians, medical doctors, optometrists, paramedics, pharmacists, psychologists, and social workers. Throughout this programme, you will learn how to apply and communicate the principles, evidence and practices that constitute evidence-based stroke care at every stage of the patient journey. If you want to learn how to work as a culturally safe, reflective practitioner within an interprofessional team and contribute to improvements in the quality and safety of stroke care, this programme is for you!

WHY STUDY WITH US?



Accelerated Learning

Complete this part-time programme in 18-months part-time, all while you work.



100% Online

This programme is 100% online so you can study in your own time from anywhere in Aotearoa New Zealand.



Flexible Learning

We know you are busy, so each course is thoughtfully designed to be flexible yet structured to help you gain the knowledge you need in the time you have.



Community

Be part of a supportive online community of like-minded peers in a collaborative digital learning environment.



Dedicated Support

From your initial inquiry, to application and to graduation, you will be supported by your own advisor throughout your student journey. You will also have the opportunity to connect in real time with instructors and peers to share ideas and feedback.

A WORLD CLASS EDUCATION

Top University in Aotearoa New Zealand

The University of Auckland is the top University in Aotearoa New Zealand and ranked 81st overall in the 2020 QS World University Rankings so you can be confident that our education is among the best in the world.

Ranked 1st in Impact

The University of Auckland was ranked 1st in the World by the 2019 and 2020 Times Higher Education World University Impact rankings, assessed against the United Nations' sustainable development goals across three broad goals: research, outreach, and stewardship.



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PROGRAMME SUMMARY

Starting dates	Duration	Number of Courses	Workload	Programme Fees*
28 February 2022 4 July 2022	18-months	4	20-25 hours per week	TBC

*The programme fees are indicative and estimates only. Fees are set in advance of each calendar year and will be updated on this brochure. Fees are inclusive of 15% GST, but do not include the Student Services Fee, course books, travel and health insurance, or living costs. Fees will be confirmed upon completion of enrolment into courses.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The Postgraduate Diploma in Stroke Care comprises 4 courses. Each course runs over a 12-week teaching period, allowing you to complete this programme in as little as 18-months part-time, one course at a time.

Taught by experts in the field of stroke care, the courses are delivered in a specific order that will build advanced knowledge and skills in stroke clinical practice. The programme follows the patient journey, from the onset of stroke symptoms to living with the long-term consequences of stroke. Case studies are threaded throughout all four taught courses, to illustrate the diverse experiences of people and whānau with stroke, and the roles and responsibilities of all members of the interdisciplinary stroke team. As students in this programme, you will 'walk alongside' these example patients as the timeline of the patient journey is mapped onto the timeline of this programme of study.

Course Code	Course	Description	Points
HLTHSCI 710	Acute Stroke Care	Describes and evaluates advanced and applied interdisciplinary knowledge about pre-hospital care, diagnosis and hyperacute stroke care, secondary stroke prevention, stroke pathophysiology and pharmacological management of risk factors. Students will evaluate and critique stroke epidemiology and equity of access to stroke services. Skills in assessment of neurological impairment and rehabilitation needs, as well as discharge planning, will be developed with reference to national clinical guidelines and local contexts.	30
HLTHSCI 711	Stroke Rehabilitation	Describes and evaluates advanced and applied knowledge of the biological processes underpinning neurological recovery after stroke. Students will develop interdisciplinary understanding of assessment and interprofessional treatment strategies for impairments in communication, swallowing, vision, sensation, cognition, mood, continence, and movement. Skills in assessing independence and participation using standard scales will also be developed for application in clinical practice.	30
HLTHSCI 712	Advanced Stroke Care	Describes and critiques contemporary and evidence-based advanced clinical assessments and decision-making regarding driving, returning to work, and engaging in physical activity after stroke, including the effects of cognition, mood, and fatigue. Students will also develop advanced skills in communicating with patients and whānau on a range of topics, including stroke mechanisms and risk factors, the effects of stroke on interpersonal relationships, self-management and adjusting to life after stroke.	30
HLTHSCI 713	Improving Stroke Care	Evaluates and critiques how clinical research is organised and conducted, with specific examples from the stroke research evidence base. Critical thinking skills will be developed and applied to basic research and clinical trials. The role of the healthcare professional in translating research into practice will be explored with reference to contemporary implementation theories, models and frameworks.	30

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PROGRAMME BENEFITS

As a graduate of the Postgraduate Diploma in Stroke Care, you will be able to:

- Apply an advanced understanding of contemporary research, theory and practice of interprofessional stroke care at all stages of the patient journey.
- Apply guidelines and knowledge to find culturally safe and practical responses to real-life challenges faced by people and their whānau with stroke
- Identify gaps between best practice and current practice, and potential solutions for improving the quality and safety of stroke care
- Understand the factors underlying inequities in patient experience and outcomes of stroke care.



WHERE COULD THIS PROGRAMME TAKE YOU?

The Postgraduate Diploma in Stroke Care is a postgraduate qualification specifically for healthcare professionals who want to advance their knowledge and skills in specialised stroke care in their current and/or future work environments.

Further study options

If you complete the Postgraduate Diploma in Stroke Care with a GPA of 3.0, you could have the opportunity to progress into a Master of Stroke Care and reassign the 120-points of courses you have already completed, provided the Postgraduate Diploma has not been awarded.

- Master of Stroke Care (under consideration)
- Doctor of Philosophy

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

In order to be admitted to this programme, you must have a Bachelors degree in a relevant subject with a GPA of at least 3.0 or higher in 75 points of the most advanced courses.

Note: Relevant subjects may include clinical exercise physiology, counselling, dietetics, medicine, nursing, nutrition, occupational therapy, optometry, paramedicine, pharmacy, physiotherapy, psychology, social work, and speech language therapy.

Admission is subject to regulatory approval. For all official programme information, including regulations about entry, enrolment, fees, examinations and requirements for degrees, diplomas and certificates, see the University Calendar.

Disclaimer: This programme is subject to regulatory approval.