



Department Anaesthesiology University of the Free State

Short learning Programme

Sedation and pain management for medical and dental procedures

Course Code: SEDA5900S

Information for 2024

This is part-time, one-year Postgraduate Certificate programme to develop students' theoretical and practical competencies in the fast-developing world of sedation and pain management.

The emphasis is on providing safe and effective procedural sedation as an operator-sedationist or dedicated sedation practitioner, in keeping with current best practice and in line with contemporary SASA Guidelines for Procedural Sedation and Analgesia, and international sedation guidelines.

Structure

The Short Course in Sedation and pain management for medical and dental procedures is a part-time short course programme taken over one year.

Students undertake modules equivalent to the value of 60 credits (ie 600 study hours; equivalent to training for a PG Certificate). The programme consists of four core modules with equivalents to 15 credits each.

Contact days

There are about 9-10 contact days over the year, most of which are electronic engagement, but also face-to-face demonstration and simulation.

Online teaching takes place in two blocks (during March and November 2024). In between these blocks, students undertake 3 days of clinical/practical training in Bloemfontein or equivalent facility. Students will be required to do cases with a mentor, ie supervised clinical training throughout the year.

2024 contact dates:

13 to 15 March 2024	Electronic lectures
17 to 19 April 2024	Face to face simulation/demonstration
4 to 7 November 2024	Electronic student presentations with evaluation, remote simulation and online written examination

Teaching and assessment

The programme is delivered through lectures, clinical skills seminars, problem-based learning and mentor-supervised clinical sessions sedating patients. Students also receive simulation training in the management of medical emergencies

Assessment is through a portfolio including log book, assessed practical cases, a problem-based learning presentation, written examination papers, and a 2,000-word referenced essay.

In addition, assessment by a mentor of a student's clinical skills and attitudes will be undertaken during the clinical attachments.

Career enhancement/outcomes

The programme prepares graduates to practise as:

- Operator sedationists: as qualified sedation practitioners they can conduct various procedures and administer drug(s) for relief of pain and anxiety, procedural sedation.
- Dedicated sedation practitioners: deliver the relief of pain and anxiety, sedation, while a dentist/surgeon/physician conducts the procedures. This form of sedation practice is becoming very popular and the demand is increasing.
- Sedation trainers/lecturers/mentors.
- Sedation providers.

Modules

Procedural Sedation Pre-clinical 1 (theory)

15 credit equivalents.

Basic sciences (e.g. physiology, anatomy and pharmacology) related to sedation. Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of drugs used for procedural sedation and analgesia. Indications and contraindications to sedation.

Assessed through a written examination.

Procedural Sedation Preclinical 2 (theory)

15 credit equivalents.

The advantages and challenges of procedural sedation.

The evaluation of a patient's suitability for sedation and formulation of treatment plans for their safe and effective management.

Treatment of pain during sedation.

The use of local anaesthetic agents.

The implications for sedation of the patient on chronic medication.

Assessed through a written examination.

Procedural Sedation Clinical 1 (practical/clinical training)

15 credit equivalents.

The advantages (and disadvantages) of oral, transmucosal, intramuscular, intravenous, inhalation and non-pharmacological methods of anxiety and pain management.

The complications of sedation, and how to manage them.

Management of the airway, including how to diagnose and manage the difficult airway.

Presentation and discussion of clinical case scenarios.

An introduction to paediatric and advanced sedation techniques.

Assessed through a written examination, logbook and clinical assessment and portfolio activities.

Procedural Sedation Clinical 2 (clinical/practical training)

15 credit equivalents.

Practical training in pre-sedation clinical assessment, administration of titrated doses of intravenous drugs.

Simulation training on the management of medical emergencies and other techniques.

Assessed through a 2000 word essay and portfolio activities.

Modules are provided integrated and not separately.

Integrated portfolio assessment will thus include:

Logbook of observed and graded cases

Essay

Oral presentation of problem cases

2 Written MCQ papers

The course cannot be passed without the minimum required practical logbook activities.

Application deadline

The program will commence in the first semester of 2022, please complete your application by 20 January 2024.

Fees

	RSA/SADEC	Non-SADEC students
Year One	R20 000	R22 000

Entry requirements

Applicants must have full and current registration with the Health Professions Council of South Africa or equivalent body, but do not need to be in clinical practice. Access to patients is provided by own arrangement.

Students must have appropriate permission to study in South Africa.

How to apply

Applicants should go to the following address <https://kpha.ufs.ac.za/Account/Login> and create a username, password and then profile by competing the questions and submitting. Once you have a profile you will be able to register. Select from the list of SLP's the following: SEDATION AND PAIN MANAGEMENT FOR MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS. There you will see information and you can then select to register for the course. The system should also send you a registration reminder. This is a new registration system and it should work fluently, but please contact Prof Diedericks is you experience problems. Before registering, please ensure you have reviewed the above information and have the correct documentation ready:

Supporting documentation

The following documents is required for application:.

Application letter	A letter stating your intention to enrol in the course.
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CV	Applicants must provide a clear, current and accurate copy of their CV.
ID/Passport	Provide a certified copy
SA Applicants	Applicants must provide a certified copy of their current full HPCSA registration certificate.
Non-SA applicants	Graduates of non-SA institutions will need to provide a scanned certified copy of their academic transcripts or degree certificate and also Provide an equivalent medical board registration document.
References	Applicants are required to submit the contact details (address and email address) or letter of recommendation of two appropriate referees: one of your references must preferably be academic and the other should be from an employer or colleague. References may not be from family members or friends.

What happens next?

After you have submitted your application, and references have been received, selection commences. The system will automatically inform you of the outcome of your application and how to pay registration fees. The electronic learning platform will only be accessible once you fully paid for the course

Contacts

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