



# CPD Certificate in Medical Device Decontamination

## School of Biological Sciences



2016

College of Sciences and Health

# CPD in Medical Device Decontamination



## Programme Description

Effective decontamination of reusable medical devices is an essential component of infection control and is a required standard of patient care in all healthcare settings. This CPD programme is intended to fulfil the continuing education and training requirements for healthcare professionals involved in the safe decontamination of medical devices. The programme content is designed to provide students with expert training in the cleaning, disinfection and terminal sterilisation processes employed in the safe decontamination of re-usable medical devices and medical instrumentation. To support this practice-based tuition, the programme includes key concepts in the microbiological principles that underlie microbial transmission, device-related infection and infection control in the healthcare environment. The standards of practice and validation procedures required to comply with current legislation and quality system standards in safe decontamination are also addressed.

## DIT and CPD in Medical Device Decontamination

DIT and the School of Biological Sciences are ideally placed to deliver this CPD programme in Medical Device Decontamination. DIT has been long recognized as a centre of excellence for the training of allied health professionals and the Institute delivers a range of health science programmes at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The School is also responsible for the provision of other health professional CPD certificates developed in response to national health education needs.

The delivery of this CPD programme in practice-based medical device decontamination in DIT has the support of the Irish Decontamination Institute, the Irish Dental Association and Clinical Sterilisation Managers in the Medical Decontamination profession.

## Programme outcomes

The programme is designed to provide practitioners with the knowledge and skills required for the delivery of a quality, medical device decontamination service.

The objectives of the programme are to provide graduates with:

- a framework for professional development in the theory and practice of safe decontamination of medical devices
- the skills to undertake safe decontamination, routine monitoring and quality control procedures in compliance with current legislation and best professional practice
- an awareness of the regulatory requirements for medical device decontamination
- a foundation in the microbiological principles that underlie the growth, transmission, control and monitoring of microbial pathogens in the healthcare environment
- an appreciation of healthcare-associated infection and infection control.

## Award

The Medical Device Decontamination programme will be awarded as a level 7, DIT validated CPD programme, accredited with 10 ECTS. Successful candidates will be awarded with a CPD certificate in Medical Device Decontamination.

## Target Market

Education and training in medical device decontamination is a prerequisite for all levels of staff, in the public and private health service, working in Central Decontamination Units, Endoscopy Units and Dental Services. This programme is targeted to meet the education and training needs of all staff in the medical device decontamination profession, including Health care assistants, Sterile services technicians, Registered Test Persons, CM1 Nurses (acute/elective), Endoscopy Nurses, Dental Nurses and Medical device design-specialists.

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## Programme Delivery

The CPD programme will be structured to cater for decontamination practitioners employed in the healthcare sector. The delivery of the programme will be based on a one Tuesday afternoon/evening per week, block release for a period of ten weeks (Fig 1).

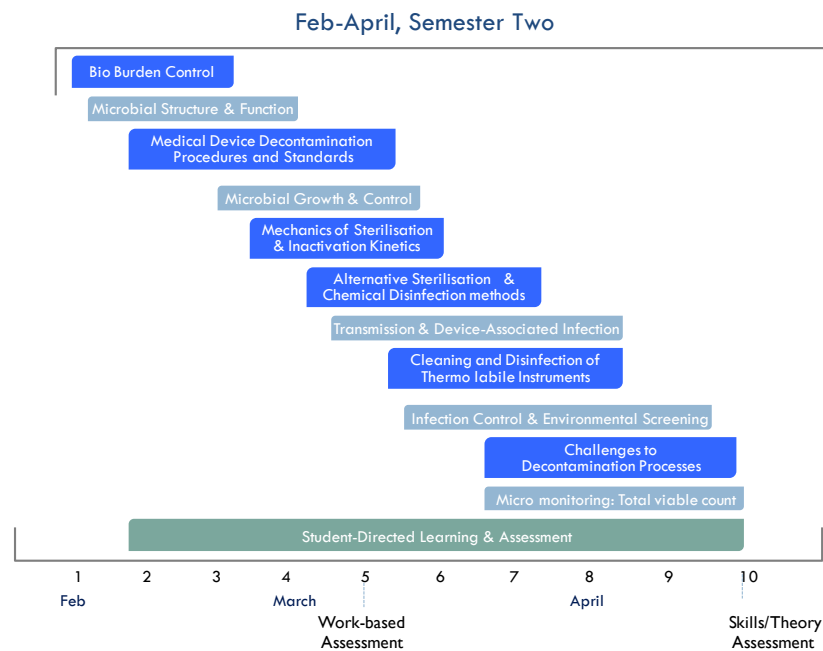


Fig 1 Grey = Medical Device Decontamination; Blue = Medical Microbiology; Green = Student Directed Learning

## Programme Resources

Training and education in medical device decontamination will be delivered by practicing members of the decontamination profession and field experts in areas of quality system standards, legislation and decontamination instrumentation. The transmission and control of infection will be taught by the Medical Microbiology staff in the School. As recognised professionals in Biomedical Science these staff members have field expertise in healthcare-associated infection and infection control.

The strength of this programme is based on practice-based tuition. Decontamination training will be delivered in a medical device workspace developed in the School, designed to reflect the working practice of a functional sterilization unit.

## Assessment

The assessment strategy will be comprised of two elements, a problem-based assignment where the student will be required to conduct and compile a workplace audit and a combined practical skills/theory assessment with validation tasks in medical device decontamination and short note questions in microbiology (Fig 1).

## Admission criteria

Applicants with level six qualifications (qqi.ie) are suitable for entry. Candidates with equivalent qualifications in the broad area of science and health or those with three years relevant professional experience will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Applicants may be required to attend an interview as part of the selection process.

## Admission Fees

The registration fee for this CPD programme is €950.

## Contact Details

This CPD programme will run in Kevin Street College, DIT, commencing in February 2016. For further information please contact [biolsciences@dit.ie](mailto:biolsciences@dit.ie).