

*… Unifying neonatal nurses globally*

**Advanced Neonatal Continuing Education**

The Faculty Neonatal Fellowship is intended for providers who have already graduated from an MSc neonatal/pediatric or midwifery program or faculty who are already teaching a small and sick newborn curriculum .

The program of study is provided below. Prior to starting this fellowship, it is expected that the student has already taken key advanced courses.

The following are graduate-level courses (or equivalents) to be completed ***prior to***, or as part of, the Advanced Practice (AP) Neonatal Fellowship program of study. These courses may be from a MSc graduate program from another institution. A gap analysis and individualized program of study will be completed for each matriculating student.

* Advanced pharmacology
* Advanced physiology
* Advanced assessment
* Transition to the Advanced Practice Nurse (APN) role

**ADVANCED PRACTICE CORE:**

* + 1. **Neonatal/Developmental Pathophysiology**

This course provides a graduate level conceptual approach to the principles and content of neonatal pathophysiology which form the scientific foundation for the development, implementation, and evaluation of clinical therapeutics. It is designed to provide the advanced practice nurse (APN) with an in-depth analysis of advanced neonatal pathophysiology, principles of growth and development, genetics/teratogenesis, embryology, and maturation of organ systems as related to critical periods of intrauterine development, transition to extrauterine life, and through early infancy. General and system specific concepts related to causation and clinical presentation of selected pathophysiologic states will be discussed. Different disease entities are used to illustrate pathophysiologic concepts and assist the student in applying concepts systematically.

***Prerequisite:*** Advanced Physiology

* + 1. **Advanced Neonatal Physical Assessment**

This course is designed to develop the student’s knowledge of comprehensive physical assessment and the diagnosis of physical findings in the premature and term neonate (small and sick newborn). The central objective of the course is to emphasis the importance of critical reasoning and clinical decision making based on a thorough collection of history and physical findings, accurate documentation, and their systematic analysis. The course content is organized around assessment of specific body systems of the neonate. The neonate’s presentation at birth is emphasized.

***Prerequisites:*** Advanced Physiology, Neonatal Pathophysiology

**C. Pharmacotherapeutics**

This course is designed to provide the student with a working knowledge of the impact of neonatal physiology on drug pharmacology. Building on the student’s knowledge of pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics, content included the role and responsibility of the APN in prescribing medications, considerations in medication selection for the treatment of a variety of neonatal conditions, diseases, and disorders, as well as monitoring the physiological response to such interventions. Also addressing the effects of drugs during pregnancy and lactation on the fetus and neonate.

***Prerequisite:*** Advanced Pharmacology

**D. Maternal Health and Implications for the Fetus/Neonate**

This course is designed to provide the student with greater depth of understanding of maternal health and implication for the fetus and neonate. Critical periods of inter- development and transition to extrauterine life.

***Prerequisite****:* Advanced Physiology

**E. Neonatal Management I**

This the first of three sequential management courses that provide the theoretical and practical knowledge for the APN to manage the health care needs of the neonate at the highest level of nursing practice. Course content focuses on the recognition and management of the common conditions affecting the newborn. Demonstrating critical thinking and diagnostic reasoning skills in clinical decision making, developing a plan of care based on scientific evidence and practice guideline, and instituting evidence-based strategies to provide psychosocial support and education for the infant’s family is emphasized.

***Prerequisite:*** Neonatal/Developmental Pathophysiology

**F. Neonatal Management II**

This is the second of three sequential management courses that provide the theoretical and practical knowledge for the APN to manage the health care needs of the neonate at the highest level of nursing practice. Course content focuses on the recognition and management of acute conditions affecting the neonate/preterm infant. Demonstrating critical thinking and diagnostic reasoning skills in clinical decision making, developing a plan of care based on scientific evidence and practice guidelines, and instituting evidence-based strategies to provide psychosocial support and education for the infant’s family are emphasized.

***Prerequisites:*** Neonatal Management I

G.**Neonatal Management III**

This is the final of three sequential management courses that provide the theoretical and practical knowledge for the APN to manage the health care needs of the neonate at the highest level of nursing practice. Course content focuses on the recognition and management of life-threatening conditions affecting the neonate/preterm infant. Demonstrating critical thinking and diagnostic reasoning skills in clinical decision making, developing a plan of care based on scientific evidence and practice guidelines, and instituting evidence-based strategies to provide psychosocial support and education for the infant’s family are emphasized.

***Prerequisites:*** Neonatal Management I & II.

**PRACTICUM**

**Neonatal Fellowship**

This course is designed to provide advanced nursing practice students with an opportunity to achieve specialty competencies at the bedside. The experience is accomplished under the guidance of an approved preceptor/facilitator. The length of course would be determined by the team but is expected to be a minimum of one month.