



Faculty of Health, Science and Technology  
Nursing Science

## Syllabus

### Nursing in longterm illness and multimorbidity

<b>Course Code:</b>	OMG026
<b>Course Title:</b>	Nursing in longterm illness and multimorbidity <i>Omvårdnad vid långvarig ohälsa och multisjuklighet</i>
<b>Credits:</b>	30
<b>Degree Level:</b>	Undergraduate level
<b>Progressive Specialisation:</b>	First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (G2F)

**Major Field of Study:**  
OMA (Nursing Science)

#### Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology 2022-08-24, and is valid from the Spring semester 2023 at Karlstad University.

#### Prerequisites

Fundamentals of Nursing and the Nursing Profession, 30 ECTS credits, and Basic Clinical Nursing, 30 ECTS credits, plus registration on Nursing in Relation to Symptoms and Signs of Illness, 37.5 ECTS credits, with at least 33.5 ECTS credits completed, including Drug Dosage Calculation II, or equivalent

#### Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. Give an account of common or serious geriatric, endocrinological, neurological, rheumatological, urological, oncological and hematological illnesses and their specific nursing care needs,

2. Give an account of rehabilitation in long-term illness or multimorbidity,
3. Give an account of terminology and classifications relevant for care communication and documentation,
4. Explain theories and models of symptoms, symptom clusters, and symptom management in multimorbidity,
5. Give an account of the characteristics of palliative care and palliative care philosophy,
6. Assess symptoms and signs in patients in end of life care and describe the signs of imminent death,
7. Explain psychological and emotional reactions in patients and next-of-kin in relation to breakpoint conversation,
8. Give an account of the laws and regulations related to confirming death, and
9. Give an account of and reflect upon the vulnerability of elderly persons in relation to domestic violence.

#### Competence and skills

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

10. Apply nursing interventions and pharmacological and complementary alternative treatment for alleviating complex symptoms in patients in end of life care,
11. Apply laws, regulations and guidelines related to care planning,
12. Apply and document all the steps in the nursing process in the care of patients with multimorbidity or common or serious geriatric, endocrinological, neurological, rheumatological, urologic, oncological and hematological illnesses,
13. Critically review and assess the use of medications in the care of patients with long-term illness or multimorbidity and perform pharmaceutical calculation correctly based on written prescriptions,
14. Inform and teach about the effects and side-effects of medication,
15. Plan for and collaborate in teams and with different organisations in coordinated individual care planning,
16. Identify and assess the self-care resources of patients with multimorbidity or serious illness, and next-of-kin, and the needs of health promoting and preventive nursing interventions,
17. Plan and implement rehabilitation and health promoting measures for patients with multimorbidity or serious illness, and
18. Inform and instruct patients with multimorbidity or serious illness and their next-of-kin with a person-centred approach.

#### Judgement and approach

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

19. Critically review and assess standard care plans, assessment instruments, and various nursing routines with a person-centred approach,
20. Assess ethical dilemmas when patients and next-of-kin have demands that are in conflict with resources, laws, evidence, and/or proven experience,
21. Take an empathetic and professional approach in the encounter with patients with multimorbidity and/or serious illness and their next-of-kin, and
22. Demonstrate conscientiousness and judgement and assess their own clinical competence in the nursing care of patients with multimorbidity and/or serious illness.

#### **Content**

The course covers the nursing of patients with long-term illness and multimorbidity. Instruction is in the form of lectures, seminars, simulation, assignments, group work, and portfolio tasks. The course includes clinical placement (10.5 ECTS credits).

The course integrates nursing (16 ECTS credits), medical science (11 ECTS credits) and social and behavioural science (3 ECTS credits).

Pathophysiology, symptoms, signs, diagnosis, treatment (including specific pharmacology), prevention and specific nursing care in:

- Neurology
- Endocrinology
- Rheumatology
- Urologic disease in elderly men
- Gerontology and geriatrics
- Dementia
- Oncology
- Hematology
- Obstructive lung disorders
- Multimorbidity

Domestic violence

- Vulnerable groups

Central concepts and theories of relevance to nursing:

- Person-centred care
- Family-focused care
- Symptom theory and models for symptom management
- Diversity perspective
- Rehabilitation
- Pedagogical perspectives
- Health promoting care
- Advocacy
- Salutogenesis
- Sexuality and intimacy

Palliative care:

- Palliative care philosophy
- Holistic care approach
- Breakpoint conversation
- Symptom alleviation
- Cancer-related and total pain
- End of life care
- Priorities in health care, ethical dilemmas
- Laws, ordinances, and guidelines related to confirming death and collaboration between different care providers

Pharmacology and medication management:

- Polypharmacy
- Pharmaceutical calculation III

Team work and informatics:

- Interprofessional collaboration within and between different care providers
- Reflecting conversations in connection with clinical placement
- E-health
- Terminology and classifications
- Standardised care plans and assessment instruments

Skills training:

- Advanced wound treatment
- Compression treatment
- Treating severely ill patients and their next-of-kin

## **Reading List**

See separate document.

## **Examination**

Assessment is individual and continuous during the course based on various examination formats such as written exams, take-home exams, skills testing/simulation, and seminars. A clinical placement (VFU) with 32 hours of mandatory attendance per week is included. Skills training sessions are also mandatory.

Examination is based on the principle of progression, which means that components of previous courses may be included.

Supplementary examination of the take-home exam is permitted if the result is close to the requirements for a Pass grade (only small revisions required). Additional material must be submitted within six days of notification. Only the additional material asked for by the teacher will be assessed in accordance with the assessment criteria, and if it does not reach the minimum level for a Pass, a grade of Fail will be reported.

A student who has failed to obtain a Pass grade at a regular exam date is offered at least two more resits within a year. A student who has failed to obtain a Pass grade for the clinical placement component will be offered two new examination opportunities as soon as circumstances permit.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to Targeted Study Support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

## **Grades**

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course.

## **Quality Assurance**

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

## **Course Certificate**

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

## **Additional information**

The course OMG026 cannot be included in the same degree programme as the course OMG205, OMG208, and OMG006.

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.

Required course for the Nursing Programme.

A student who, in the examiner's judgement, will fail to obtain a Pass grade for the clinical training component on the grounds of grave and unprofessional conduct may be required to immediately discontinue the placement.

As stipulated in the Higher Education Act Ch. 4, sect. 6, SFS 1992: 1434, and Regulations of Student Expulsion from Higher Education SFS 2007: 989, a student who suffers from mental disorder, abuses alcohol or drugs, or has been guilty of a serious offence endangering others or valuable property can be expelled until further notice. In such a case, the Rector files a complaint to the Expulsion Board of higher education, which investigates the matter and makes a decision. A decision of expulsion shall always entail that the student must discontinue the education until further notice. The Expulsion Board of Higher Education is responsible for all Swedish higher education institutions.