



## MODULE SPECIFICATION

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| <b>Academic Year (student cohort covered by specification)</b>     | 2022-23   |
| <b>Module Code</b>   | IDM205  |
| <b>Module Title</b>  | Healthcare-associated infections  |
| <b>Module Organiser(s)</b>   | Dr Astrid Leck  |
| <b>Contact email</b>   | The LSHTM distance learning programmes and modules are run in collaboration with University of London Worldwide. Enquiries may be made via <a href="#">the Student Advice Centre</a> . (Enquiries from face-to-face i.e. London-based the LSHTM MSc or research students regarding study of DL modules should be emailed to <a href="mailto:distance@lshtm.ac.uk">distance@lshtm.ac.uk</a> .)   |
| <b>Faculty</b>   | Infectious & Tropical Diseases: The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine<br><a href="https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/research/faculties/itd">https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/research/faculties/itd</a>   |
| <b>FHEQ Level</b>  | Level 7   |
| <b>Credit Value</b>  | <b>CATS:</b> 15<br><b>ECTS:</b> 7.5   |
| <b>HECoS Code</b>  | 100265:100345 (1:1)   |
| <b>Mode of Delivery</b>  | Distance Learning   |
| <b>Mode of Study</b>   | Directed self-study, through provided and online materials  |
| <b>Language of Study</b>   | English   |
| <b>Pre-Requisites</b>  | To benefit fully from this module those who register for it are strongly recommended either to be currently working in or to have previously worked in a healthcare setting. The type of healthcare setting is unimportant.<br><br>Those who wish to study this module as part of another programme, or as an individual module, should have a prior knowledge of basic biochemistry, cell biology, genetics and immunology in order to be able to work through and benefit fully from this module. |
| <b>Accreditation by Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body</b> | None  |
| <b>Module Cap (Maximum number of students)</b>                     | None  |

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| <b>Target Audience</b>                           | This module is intended for those who wish to understand the principles of healthcare associated infections and to apply this knowledge to the prevention of infection in the healthcare setting in which they work.  |
| <b>Module Description</b>                        | This module explores the reasons for the spread of infection within healthcare settings; from the biological basis of infectious disease through to the processes involved in the prevention and control of infection.  |
| <b>Duration</b>                                  | Distance learning module studies begin in early October. Students may start their studies at any time from receipt of study materials and work through the material until the start of the June examinations (although assessment submission deadlines which are earlier than this must be observed). |
| <b>Last Revised (e.g. year changes approved)</b> | March 2022  |

| <b>Programme(s)</b>  | <b>Status</b>   |
|--|-----------------|
| This module is linked to the following programme(s)  |                 |
| PGDip/MSc Infectious Diseases (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)                 | Elective option |
| PGDip/MSc Clinical Trials (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)                     | Elective option |
| PGDip/MSc Epidemiology (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)                        | Elective option |
| PGDip Public Health (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)                           | Elective Option |
| MSc Public Health (General Stream) (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)            | Elective Option |
| MSc Public Health: Environment and Health (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)     | Elective Option |
| MSc Public Health: Health and Promotion (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide)       | Elective Option |
| MSc Public Health: Health Services Management (Distance Learning - University of London Worldwide) | Elective Option |

## Module Aim and Intended Learning Outcomes

### Overall aim of the module

The overall module aim is to:

- give students the necessary knowledge to be able to develop a strategy to prevent healthcare associated and hospital infections. If presented with infected patients, the students would know what clinical samples should be collected and how the information derived from them could be used to inform a strategy for the prevention of healthcare associated infection.

### Module Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module a student will be able to:

1. discuss the essential theory and practice of nosocomial infections,
2. discuss the microbiological diagnosis and control of these infections,
3. discuss the role of health care professionals in the surveillance and management of healthcare associated infections.

## Indicative Syllabus

### Session Content

The module is expected to cover the following topics:

- **Section 1** Epidemiology and management  
How to develop a suitable management response: the role of epidemiology in the managerial & organizational requirements for the prevention & control of healthcare associated infections.
- **Section 2** Microorganisms and the spread of infection  
The aetiology and pathogenesis of nosocomial pathogens and the role of the microbiology laboratory in the diagnosis and surveillance of infections.
- **Section 3** Prevention of infection: Clinical aspects  
Preventative measures which are essential components in the delivery of care to patients; principally, aseptic & hygienic techniques and isolation as a means of infection control.
- **Section 4** Prevention of infection: hospital and healthcare environment.  
The procedures and systems necessary to prevent the spread of infection within hospital & healthcare settings; including cleaning, disinfection, sterilization, disposal of clinical waste, processing laundry, kitchen hygiene, community healthcare facilities and care of the deceased.

## Teaching and Learning

### Notional Learning Hours

| Type of Learning Time           | Number of Hours | Expressed as Percentage (%) |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Directed self-study             | 75              | 50                          |
| Self-directed learning          | 25              | 17                          |
| Assessment, review and revision | 50              | 33                          |
| <b>Total</b>                    | <b>150</b>      | <b>100</b>                  |

### Teaching and Learning Strategy

The teaching and learning strategy is centred on a self-directed learning approach, working through a Study Guide and accompanying text "Manual of Infection Prevention & Control" (Damani, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2019), against a detailed set of learning objectives. Students are also strongly encouraged to participate in discussion forums with both their peers and module tutors and to make use of the LSHTM online Library resources. Revision sessions are held using either discussion forums or Collaborate. Written feedback is provided for submitted assignments.

### Assessment

#### Assessment Strategy

Formal assessment of this module includes a two-hour unseen written paper examination with 15 minutes additional reading/planning time (70%) and an assessed assignment comprising a 2500-word essay (30%).

#### Assessment submission deadlines

Assessed Assignment submission deadline **31<sup>st</sup> March**

Exam takes place in **June**

#### Summative assessment

| Assessment Type     | Assessment Length (i.e. Word Count, Length of presentation in minutes) | Weighting (%) | Intended Module Learning Outcomes Tested |
|---------------------|--|---------------|--|
| Assessed Assignment | 2500 words   | 30            | Covers all ILOs for the module           |
| Exam                | 2 hours 15 minutes   | 70            | Covers all ILOs for the module           |

Assignments for this module can be submitted only once annually, no later than **31<sup>st</sup> March** and must be submitted via the online Assignment Management System.

Unseen written examinations for DL modules are held once a year, in **June** (including resits).

Exams will be held in accordance with annual UoL guidance. They will be conducted in the same format for all students either online or in international exam centres.

There are over 650 examination centres worldwide. They are arranged mainly through Ministries of Education or the British Council. A list of examination centres can be found at <https://london.ac.uk/current-students/examinations/examination-centres>.

A local fee will be payable direct to the examination centre. This fee is in addition to the programme/module fee and is set by, and paid directly to, the individual examination centres. The level of local examination centre fees varies across the world and neither the University of London nor the LSHTM have any control over the fee amount.

### **Resitting assessment**

Resits will accord with the LSHTM's [Resits Policy](#).

The Resit assessment will be the same assessment type as the first attempt (see previous table).

## **Resources**

### **Indicative reading list**

- Goering, R.V., Dockrell, H.M., Zuckerman, M. and Chiodini, P.L., (2018) *Mims' Medical Microbiology and Immunology*. 6<sup>th</sup> Ed. ISBN: 978-0702071560.
- Damani, N. (2019) *Manual of Infection, Prevention and Control*, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. ISBN 9780198815938

Textbooks will be made available in e-format to registered students in early autumn.

### **Other resources**

**Study Guide:** Paper version

**Reader:** On line reading list available via the Virtual Learning Environment.

In addition to the materials above, students are given access to the **LSHTM Virtual Learning Environment, (VLE; Moodle)** where they can access the study guide, reading list, web-based discussion forums, assignments, supplementary materials and the **LSHTM online library resources**.

## Teaching for Disabilities and Learning Differences

The module-specific site on Moodle provides students with access to the module learning materials, including a study guide (with accessible printable versions of sessions), an online reading list (containing essential readings), textbooks as e-format and additional resources including supplementary exercises. All materials posted up on Moodle areas, including computer-based sessions, have been made accessible where possible. The LSHTM Moodle has been made accessible to the widest possible audience, using a VLE that allows for up to 300% zoom, permits navigation via keyboard and use of speech recognition software, and that allows listening through a screen reader. All students have access to "[SensusAccess](#)" software which allows conversion of files into alternative formats.

If you have specific, access requirements please contact the Inclusive Practice Manager via [special.arrangements@london.ac.uk](mailto:special.arrangements@london.ac.uk) to request an alternative format of the study guide and for special exam arrangements.