



MGM INSTITUTE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

(Deemed to be University) **Grade 'A++' Accredited by NAAC**

MGM Educational Campus, Plot No. 1 & 2, Sector-1, Kamothe, Navi Mumbai – 410 209.

**DOCTORATE OF NURSING PRACTICE
(Critical Care)
PROGRAM**



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INDIAN NURSING COUNCIL (GUIDELINES FOR STARTING DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (DNP) CRITICAL CARE PROGRAM IN THE UNIVERSITIES APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL), REGULATIONS, 2022

BACKGROUND

National Health Policy 2017 document emphasized the need for preparation of nurse practitioners/specialist nurses, standardization of education and clinical training and strengthening regulation of nursing practice. In response to this, Competency-based and clinical residency-based curriculum for Nurse Practitioner programs have been developed by Indian Nursing Council (INC). Nurse practitioner in Critical Care (NPCC) is two-year residency Masters' program. The NPCC graduates are prepared to practice in ICU settings as nurse practitioners upon additional registration at the state nursing council, based on INC standards of critical care nursing practice and institutional standing orders/protocols.

INC and, University of Houston College of Nursing has signed an MOU to initiate DNP in India. INC is collaborating with University of Houston College of Nursing, Texas to develop the curriculum and implement the DNP program on a pilot basis in two nursing educational institutions in India.

PHILOSOPHY

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is one of the terminal degrees in nursing that prepares graduates for the highest level of clinical practice and leadership roles in the discipline.

DNP programs include the development and validation of advanced competencies in one area of specialized clinical practice. DNP prepares advanced practice nurses to doctoral level and it is a practice intensive degree whereas PhD is a research-intensive degree. The impact of DNP is expected to have improved patient outcomes, quality of care, improved accessibility, and decreased cost, which are the results of various research findings in many countries. Prescriptive privileges would be based on regulations of Indian Government and Indian Nursing Council.

DNP (Critical Care) is a three-year part-time Doctorate in Nursing Practice for Nurse Practitioner Critical Care (NPCC) graduates.



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PURPOSE

To prepare advanced practice nurses at the highest level of professional practice and to advance the application of Evidence-Based knowledge to improve patient outcomes.

COMPETENCIES

The competencies include foundational competencies and specialty competencies (Adapted from DNP Essentials of doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice, 2006; The essentials:

Core competencies for professional nursing education: Advanced level Nursing Education by AACN, 2021)

The DNP Graduate

- a. Integrates the knowledge of sciences relevant to foundation of nursing practice (eg. Pathophysiology, pharmacology, psychology, ethics etc.) to develop evidence-based (EB) practice approaches.
- b. conceptualizes new care delivery models within the current organizational, political, cultural and economic perspectives and assumes organizational and systems leadership for quality improvement.
- c. Demonstrates clinical scholarship and analytical methods for evidence-based practice.
- d. Utilize innovative information and patient care technology for the improvement and transformation of patient care and healthcare systems.
- e. Engages in the process of health care policy development and implementation for advocacy in healthcare.
- f. Promotes interpersonal collaboration for improving patient and population health outcomes.
- g. Engages in health promotion and population health activities.
- h. Demonstrates specialty-focused competencies to practice as an advanced practice nurse in the area of specialization such as NPCC.

SCOPE OF PRACTICE & REGISTRATION

a. Scope of Practice

The DNP graduate will be able to

- Practice as advanced practice nurse (NPCC) with higher level competencies.
- Assume clinical leadership positions (Quality improvement, leadership & policy).
- Assume faculty positions in teaching nurse practitioner/specialty nursing programs.



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- Assume dual role leadership positions at integration of education and practice settings.
- Conduct evidence-based practice (EBP) projects to apply evidence for advanced practice nursing.

b. Registration

DNP degree will be registered by State Nursing Registration Council (SNRC) as additional qualification.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR UNIVERSITIES APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL TO START DNP (Critical Care) PROGRAM IN NURSING

The minimum criteria for universities to have approved DNP degree program in Nursing is as follows:

- The University must be approved by the Council under Section 10 of INC Act, 1947.

Deemed/Private University

The University shall have minimum two guides (regular faculty) with Ph.D/DNP qualification with relevant experience along with scholarly and practice requirements (Research publications for PhD and scientific practice/EBP publications for DNP) to start the DNP program.

ELIGIBILITY TO START DNP (NPCC) IN A COLLEGE OF NURSING

- Institution running the NPCC program and has completed two batches*
- Clinical Practice Experience and environment*
 - Medical College Hospital/Tertiary Hospital with all ICU facilities
 - Clinical facilities/requirements and skill lab requirements including bed capacity as specified in NPCC curriculum
 - Clinical hours as per curriculum

FINAL DNP SCHOLARLY EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE (EBP) PROJECT

Derived from clinical experience focusing on evidence-based practice. Its main focus is to identify clinical problems/need and develop an evidence-based approach to address the problem. The project must be practice-based and result in a change or improvement in practice.

Examples:

- Evidence-based project
- Quality improvement project



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- Practice change initiative
- Research utilization project

DNP PROJECT GUIDE/ADVISOR

- DNP Project Guides/Project Advisors can select and have only six scholars at any given period of time (Both DNP & PhD together).
- DNP faculty from College of Nursing, University of Houston may provide technical support/guidance during the period of collaboration.
- Main guide: Initially faculty with a Ph.D. degree in nursing (Respective Specialty) with 5 years Post Graduate teaching experience with minimum of 5 indexed scientific publications may be permitted. Later when DNP graduates are available, DNP faculty can become guides with 3 years clinical experience (Critical Care) and with minimum of 3 publications
- DNP Scholars must have two co-guides one is MSc Nursing (NPCC) with 3 years clinical experience and another co-guide must be a PG medical faculty/intensivist (Preceptor for NPCC program).
- In Deemed University the guide should be from the same University.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR PROJECT GUIDE/ADVISOR

- Initially faculty with a Ph.D. degree in nursing (Respective Specialty) with 5 years Post Graduate teaching experience with minimum of 5 indexed scientific publications in may be permitted. Later when DNP graduates are available, DNP faculty can become guides with 3 years clinical experience (Critical Care) and with minimum of 3 publications.
- Co-Guide can be faculty with MSc Nursing (NPCC) with minimum 3 years clinical experience is required. One more Co-guide must be PG medical faculty.
- Maximum age to be a guide shall be 65years.
- Guide cannot have more than 6 candidates (including being Co-Guide) at any given point of time.

DNP SCHOLARS

- Part time DNP scholars are those who are presently employed in a Specialty Hospital/ Specialty unit/department (Critical Care Unit) within the College of Nursing/University jurisdiction.



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- The scholars can select the guide from the list of guides recognized by the respective University.

Eligibility Criteria for DNP Scholars

Applications are invited from eligible scholars who

- (a) Have obtained a Post Graduate degree in Nursing (NPCC) recognized by Council with 2 years of critical care **Clinical experience** for enrolment in DNP Critical Care (part-time) under Faculty of Nursing in the respective University.
- (b) Have passed M.Sc. Nursing (NPCC) with a minimum of 60 marks for every course/subject.
- (c) Are working in Specialty Hospital/Specialty unit/department (Critical Care Unit) within the College of Nursing/University jurisdiction.

Criteria for Selection

- (a) Selection for the DNP. Program will be based on merit either by entrance or by M.Sc. (NPCC) examination marks (minimum- 60 marks).

RESERVATION IN ADMISSION: As per UGC guidelines.

DURATION

Part time: Three years, maximum of 6 years

A candidate can register for DNP program on part time basis.

- (a) A candidate should complete EBP project and submit the project to the University within three years from the date of registration.
- (b) Maximum period for submission of the Evidence Based Practice project will be 6 years from the date of registration subject to the approval from the Board of Research Studies/Doctoral Studies on the recommendations of the guide. There will be no provision for further extension of the period.

Under extraordinary circumstances, affecting a student warranting extension of period for submission of EBP project, the student should submit an application to the Registrar (Evaluation) through the guide who will refer the same to the Board of Research Studies/Doctoral Studies for its opinion, which will be submitted to the High-Power Committee. The decision of the Vice Chancellor in the matter shall be final.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- a) Registration – 1st July every year.
- b) Submission of half yearly progress report – 15th July every year/15th January every year.
- c) **Scope for changing the EBP project topic:** The project topic can be changed within 6 months to one year.
- d) Exact date of the semester examinations will be notified by the university.
- e) Submission of ethical clearance certificate within 6 months after EBP project proposal.
- f) Ethical clearance/permission from the Institution/Concerned Authorities should be obtained from where the project is being implemented.
- g) Submission of final synopsis of EBP project work leading to DNP degree after approval of all half yearly reports, passing in all courses in every semester and on permission to submit the synopsis to DNP/PhD registration committee by end of V Semester.
- h) Submission of project report along with the application within 3 months after the approval of the final synopsis ie. 3 months before completion of VI semester and permission to be sought by DNP/PhD registration committee to submit the EBP project report.
- i) Final Viva-Voce examination after the acceptance and approval of DNP EBP project report by the examiners (date to be notified by the University).

PROCEDURE FOR REGISTRATION

- a) Selected Candidates applying for registration shall submit the duly filled Registration form through Head of the Research/Nursing department or College of Nursing within the stipulated time along with the prescribed fee. The candidate shall furnish the information detailed below:
- b) Qualification and details of previous study and research, if any, and full particulars of the publications to his/her credit in accredited journals. (attested copies to be furnished)
- c) Details of clinical experience with experience certificate.
- d) Name and address of the recognized Guide/Project advisor and Co-Guides under whom the candidate proposes to carry out the project.
- e) Name of the department, institution and clinical area, where the candidate proposes to work and to conduct EBP project.



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- f) Candidates shall forward application along with the consent of the project advisor/guide with name, signature & seal and a No objection Certificate from the Head of the Department and Head of the Institution where the candidate is working. (Place of work) while submitting the application along with the documents mentioned under schedule for the candidates.
- g) All applications received by the University before the stipulated time and date shall be placed before the Board of Research/Doctoral Studies. The respective Board/Committee shall examine the applications and after screening process shall recommend to the University for Registration within three months from the last date notified for the receipt of applications.
- h) Registration shall be effective from the date mentioned as the last date for payment of prescribed fees in the concerned specialty for the selected candidate.
- i) No candidate shall, without previous permission of the respective Board/Committee join any other course of study or appear for any other examination conducted by the University or by any other University during the period of registration.

BOARD OF RESEARCH/DOCTORAL STUDIES

The Board/Committee will consist of

- a) Dean of the Faculty of Nursing
- b) Selected DNP/PhD qualified Committee Members
- c) One subject expert.

PROGRESS REPORT

After registration, every candidate shall submit half-yearly progress report regularly through the guide.

Every such half-yearly report shall be submitted for the period from 1st January to the end of June and from 1st July to the end of December. However, the first report for the fraction of six months period shall be submitted ending either in June or December.

The half-yearly progress report shall cover the following aspects:

- a) Progress in the review of literature
- b) New data acquired or theoretical background/techniques developed
- c) Progress/Standardization in EBP project



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d) Discussion of the work done.

If the candidate fails to submit two consecutive half-yearly progress reports in time, his/her registration shall stand canceled.

If two consecutive half-yearly progress reports are not satisfactory, the respective Board/Committee shall recommend to the University for Cancellation of the registration.



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PROGRAM OUTCOMES: DNP Critical Care Program

1. Apply theories, models, and scientific inquiry to develop innovative, evidence-based solutions in advanced nursing practice.
2. Develop Leadership Competencies in Advanced Nursing Roles
3. Utilize healthcare information systems, and informatics to improve patient outcomes, clinical decision-making, and organizational efficiency.
4. Analyse healthcare financing, policy implications, and business strategies to ensure the sustainability and cost-effectiveness of nursing practices.
5. Develop and implement population health strategies and actively engage in care coordination & community services
6. Design, implement, analyse, and disseminate EBP projects that contribute to nursing science and improve healthcare outcomes.



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COURSE OUTCOME

First Semester DNP Critical Care Program

At the end of the course the student;

Foundations of DNP Practice

- CO1** : Analyses the foundational principles of scientific inquiry and evidence-based practice to develop advanced nursing competencies
- CO2** : Integrate DNP roles, leadership, and interprofessional collaboration by adopting evidence, innovation, and quality improvement strategies into advanced nursing practice

Leadership for Quality Improvement in Nursing & Healthcare including transformational leadership

- CO3** : Demonstrates transformational and systems leadership skills by applying theories of organizational change, strategic decision-making, and communication to enhance healthcare quality and patient safety.
- CO4** : Implements quality improvement methodologies such as clinical audits, PDSA cycles, and benchmarking to optimize organizational performance, resource utilization, and patient-centered care in nursing practice.



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COURSE OUTCOME

Second Semester DNP Critical Care Program

At the end of the course the student;

Translational Methods for Practice Inquiry (EBP Methods

- CO5** : Applies principles of evidence-based practice (EBP) by formulating clinical questions, critically appraising literature, and integrating the best available evidence to enhance patient outcomes and healthcare quality.
- CO6** : Differentiates between EBP, quality improvement, and research utilization to lead innovative and interprofessional initiatives that promote evidence-based changes in nursing and healthcare systems

Applied Statistical Methods for Practice Inquiry

- CO07** : Interprets findings to support evidence-based practice and quality improvement initiatives.
- CO08** : Evaluates and report statistical findings to enhance decision-making, improve patient outcomes, and contribute to nursing research and healthcare policy development.



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COURSE OUTCOME

Third Semester DNP Critical Care Program

At the end of the course the student;

Informatics in Transformation of Health Care

- CO09** : Applies principles of evidence-based practice (EBP) by formulating clinical questions, critically appraising literature, and integrating the best available evidence to enhance patient outcomes and healthcare quality.
- CO10** : Differentiates between EBP, quality improvement, and research utilization to lead innovative and interprofessional initiatives that promote evidence-based changes in nursing and healthcare systems.

The Business of Healthcare

- CO11** : Analyses healthcare financing and reimbursement models to effectively manage financial resources.
- CO12** : Demonstrates strategic leadership by integrating business, financial, and regulatory knowledge to drive organizational change and improve healthcare delivery



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COURSE OUTCOME

Fourth Semester DNP Critical Care Program

At the end of the course the student;

Population Health Strategies, Healthcare Policy & Advocacy

- CO13** : Evaluates population health strategies to enhance clinical care, patient-provider engagement, healthcare technology initiatives, and community services for improved health outcomes.
- CO14** : Demonstrates leadership in analysing national and global health trends, influencing policy development, and advocating for the advancement of nursing practice.



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CURRICULUM

CURRICULUM FOR DNP 3 YEAR PART TIME

Semester I					
Course Code	Course Name	Hours		Credits	
		Theory	Practicum	Theory	Practicum
FDNP	Foundations of DNP practice	30	-	2	-
LQI	Leadership for Quality Improvement in Nursing & Healthcare including transformational leadership	45	-	3	-
EBP-I	Scholarly EBP project Seminar I (EBP project planning -Identifying the clinical problem/question, literature search for evidence and critical appraisal of the evidence)	15	-	1	-
CP-I	Clinical Practicum (CP) 1 – Management of critically ill with complex critical care conditions (Advanced Health Assessment & Integration of advanced pathophysiology & advanced pharmacology)	-	120	-	2
Total		90	120	6	2

Semester II					
Course Code	Course Name	Hours		Credits	
		Theory	Practicum	Theory	Practicum
TMPI	Translational methods for practice inquiry (EBP methods)	45	-	3	-
SMPI	Applied statistical methods for practice inquiry	30	-	2	-
EBP-II	EBP project -Seminar II (EBP project proposal preparation & Proposal defense)	30	-	2	-
CP II	Clinical practicum II- Management of critically ill with complex critical care conditions (Advanced Health Assessment & Integration of advanced pathophysiology & advanced pharmacology)	-	120	-	2
Total		105	120	7	2



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Semester III					
Course Code	Course Name	Hours		Credits	
		Theory	Practicum	Theory	Practicum
ITHC	Informatics in transformation of Health care	30	-	2	-
BHC	The business of healthcare	15	-	1	-
EBP-III	EBP project Seminar III	15	-	1	-
CP-III	Clinical practicum III- EBP project implementation/data collection (Management of critically ill with complex critical care conditions)	-	120	-	2
	Total	60	120	4	2

Semester IV					
Course Code	Course Name	Hours		Credits	
		Theory	Practicum	Theory	Practicum
PHS	Population health strategies, Health care policy & Advocacy	30	-	2	-
EBP-IV	EBP project Seminar IV Seminar & Data analysis	30	-	2	-
CP IV	Clinical practicum IV- EBP project implementation and evaluation (Management of critically ill with complex critical care conditions)	-	120	-	2
	Total	60	-	4	2



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Semester V					
Course Code	Course Name	Hours		Credits	
		Theory	Practicum	Theory	Practicum
EBP-V	EBP project seminar V (Data analysis, Project synopsis submission & dissemination planning-publication & presentation-poster/oral)	45	-	3	-
CP- V	Clinical practicum V -Nursing Informatics practicum	-	120	-	2
	Total	45	120	3	2

Semester VI					
Course Code	Course Name	Hours		Credits	
		Theory	Practicum	Theory	Practicum
EBP-VI	EBP project seminar VI (Project submission)	30	-	2	-
CP-VI	Clinical practicum VI -Leadership Practicum	-	120	-	2
	Total	30		2	2



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Summary

Semester	Theory	Clinical Practicum
I Semester-	Theory 6 credits (6 hours/wk x 15 wks=90 hrs)	Cl. Practicum I- 2 Credits (8 hrs/wk x 15 wks=120 hrs)
II Semester-	Theory 7 credits (7 hrs/wk x 15 wks=105 hrs)	Cl. Practicum II- 2 Credits (8 hrs/wk x 15 wks=120 hrs)
III Semester-	Theory 4 credits (4 hours/wk x 15 wks=60 hrs)	Cl. Practicum III- 2 Credits (8 hrs/wk x 15 wks=120 hrs)
IV Semester-	Theory 4 Credits (4hrs/wk x 15 wks= 60 hrs)	Cl. Practicum IV-2 Credits (8 hrs/wk x 15 wks=120 hrs)
V Semester-	Theory 3 Credits (3hrs/wk x 15 wks= 45 hrs)	Cl. Practicum V- 2 Credits (8 hrs/wk x 15 wks=120 hrs)
VI Semester	Theory 2 credits (2 hrs/wk x 15 wks=30 hrs)	Cl. Practicum VI- 2 Credits (8 hrs/wk x 15 wks=120 hrs)
	Theory- 1 credit= <u>1hour/week</u> (15 weeks/semester=15 hours)	Practicum- 1 credit=<u>4 hours/week</u> (15 wks./semester=60 hours)
Total	19 courses, 38 Credits (T-26 & CP-12) T-390 hrs & CP-720 hrs	

Electives:

- Scientific writing or Telehealth and Nursing Practice

ASSESSMENT (FORMATIVE AND SUMMATIVE)

- Seminar
- Written assignments/Term papers
- Clinical & Care pathway/Case study report
- Clinical performance evaluation
- Log book-(Competency list and clinical requirements) countersigned by the medical/nursing faculty preceptor
- Test papers
- Final examination



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TEACHING METHODS

Teaching theoretical, skill lab & Clinical can be done in the following methods and integrated during clinical posting

- Clinical conference
- Case/clinical presentation
- In-depth drug study, presentation
- Clinical seminars
- Journal clubs
- Case study
- Directed reading
- Assignments
- Case study analysis
- Workshops

RESIDENTIAL CLINICAL EXPERIENCE:

Residential experience in critical care units (Proficiency in all critical care skills/competencies)
48 hours/week, Is flexible with different shifts as per institutional policy.

Clinical postings may include the following-

- Medical ICU (Includes hematology posting)
- Surgical ICU (Includes OT posting)
- Cardio/Cardio thoracic (CT) ICU
- Emergency Department (Includes Trauma)
- Other ICUs such as Neuro ICU/Burns/ Nephro & Dialysis/Neonatal & Pediatric ICU/
OBS & Gynae

Competencies listed in the NPCC curriculum (logbook), need strengthening in clinical field (Critical care areas).

Portfolio for clinical experiences and competencies must be maintained.



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LEAVE

- a) Regular leave as per institutional policy
- b) Examination preparatory leave & electives-1 week/semester
- c) Semester examinations dates are to be considered as working days

SALARY

- In-service scholars, salary should be protected.
- Others, salary should be given as per institutional policy

PROJECT GRANTS

- Provision should be made for Project grants to all scholars

SEMESTER EXAMINATION

The scheme of examination to be conducted by the University shall be as follows:

A. SCHEME OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION

Semester	Paper	Subject/Course	University/College	Duration	Marks
I	Paper I	Foundations of DNP practice	College	2 hours	50
	Paper II	Leadership for Quality Improvement in Nursing & Healthcare including transformational leadership	College	2 hours	50
II	Paper I	Translational methods for practice inquiry (EBP methods)	University	3 hours	100
	Paper II	Applied statistical methods for practice inquiry	University	3 hours	100
	Paper III	EBP project proposal (Proposal defense)	University		100
III	Paper I	Informatics in transformation of Health care	College	2 hours	50
	Paper II	The business of healthcare	College	2 hours	50
IV	Paper I	Population health strategies, healthcare policy and advocacy	College	2 hours	50
V		Synopsis presentation	University		
VI		Viva Voce examination	University		100

Pattern of Examination: Essay and short answers

Pass Marks: 60% of marks will be considered as pass for every course.



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B. PROCEDURE FOR SEMESTER EXAMINATION

- a) The college DNP examination committee consisting of the DNP project guide/advisor, two co guides along with the head of the institution will conduct the college examination and forward the marks to the university every semester. Two attempts are permitted for all college examinations.
- b) The Board of Research/Doctoral Studies shall prepare a panel of both external & internal examiners and will constitute the Board of Examiners for the conduct of the University examination.
- c) The Board of Examiners for the University examinations -Responsibilities:
 1. There shall be double valuation of the answer scripts by the same examiners who have set the question papers. The marks list shall be sent by the examiners directly to Registrar (DNP/PhD Evaluation) of the University concerned.
 2. If the difference of the marks in valuation between the two examiners exceeds 15% of the concerned answer scripts, the same will be valued by the third examiner. The marks awarded by the third examiner shall be sent to the Registrar (Evaluation) of the University concerned for the announcement of results.
 3. The EBP project proposal defense examination shall be conducted in presence of the panel consisting of:
 - Two examiners (Subject Experts) appointed by the University
 - Guide/Co-Guide
 - i. The candidate shall be declared as successful in the examination if he/she secured not less than 60% of marks in each paper.
 - ii. In case the candidate is not successful in the first attempt he/she may be given two more chances to appear for the failed examination after a period of three to six months. Further, if he/she is unable to attend or appear in the supplementary examination, then he/she has to appear in the next regular examination, after that he/she will not be permitted to sit in the examination.



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CHANGE OF GUIDE

Change of guide may be allowed within a period of less than two years. In extraordinary circumstances warranting change of guide, the guide and/or the student should place the facts before the Board of Research/ Doctoral studies for its opinion. The decision and the recommendations of the Board of Research/Doctoral Studies shall be final.

SUBMISSION OF SCHOLARLY EBP PROJECT REPORT

- Any candidate who has completed the minimum period of three years doing prescribed EBP project from the date of his/her registration and not less than three months before the expiry of the maximum period prescribed for submission of EBP project report may submit an application along with five copies of synopsis of the project report through the Guide, the Head of the institution to the Board of Research/Doctoral Studies or respective Committee for permission to submit the project report as per the University procedures.
- After the approval, four copies of the approved final synopsis (hard copy/CD) shall be sent to Board of Research/Doctoral Studies who shall proceed with the Constitution of Board of Examiners for the adjudication of the DNP Scholarly EBP project report and keep it ready prior to the submission of the project report.
- Every candidate shall submit with his/her application, five copies of the project report embodying the results of the project work carried out by him/her within three months after the submission of the final synopsis as per the University procedures.
- A candidate may also submit along with his/her project report, papers published by him/her embodying the results of investigation for the DNP degree and also any other contribution/s to the knowledge of his/her subject or any cognate branch of the subject.
(**Scientific publications/paper presentations:** Minimum of one scientific publication in indexed journal and one paper presentation either oral/poster are mandatory)
- Every candidate shall submit with his/her project report, a certificate from the guide/s under whom he/she worked, that the project report, submitted is a record of project work done by the candidate during the period of study under him/her that it has not previously formed the basis for the award of any degree or diploma, associateship/fellowship or any other similar award.



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- If, however, the project report submitted has formed in part the basis for the award of previous degree the candidate shall clearly set forth in a preface or written statement the portion(s) which have formed the basis for the award of the previous degree.
- Along with the project report the candidate will also produce a “No Due Certificate” from the Head of the Department and Head of the Institution and from the University Librarian and Finance Section if applicable.

DNP PROJECT REPORT EVALUATION

For the adjudication of the DNP EBP project report, there shall be a Board of Examiners of two external members to be chosen by the University, from the panel of examiners recommended by the Board of Research/Doctoral Studies. The guide shall be the Chairperson of the Board of Examiners. However, under extraordinary circumstances, the Board of Research/Doctoral Studies may appoint a Chairperson other than the Guide from the panel of Board of Examiners. The external examiners must be from outside the University who are subject experts who fulfill the criteria of a guide.

Each external examiner appointed shall send the report to the Chairperson within two months from the date of receipt of the project report. Such reports should include:

- a) A critical account of the work of the candidate as embodied in the project report and the evaluation of the work in terms of its contribution to the evidence for advanced clinical practice.
- b) Details of any questions to be asked or points to be clarified at the Viva-Voce examination.
- c) Definite recommendations as to whether the DNP degree should be awarded or not.

The Chairperson shall forward the report of the examiners along with the consolidated recommendations of the Board of Examiners to the respective Board/ Committee.

If both the examiners give definite recommendations against the award of the degree, the Scholarly EBP project report shall be rejected. If one of the examiners gives a definite recommendation against the award of the degree, the project report may be referred to a third external examiner, from out of the panel recommended by the Board of Research/Doctoral Studies. If the report of the third examiner is favorable, then the candidate shall be eligible to



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appear for the Viva-Voce examination and if it is not favorable, then the project report shall be rejected.

If one of the examiners makes qualified recommendations with valid reasons (for e.g. to resubmit the project report after suitable modifications), the Chairperson shall communicate the same to the Registrar (DNP/PhD Evaluation), who will in turn intimate the candidate for resubmitting the project report with the suitable modifications within six months from the date of the communication. The resubmitted project report with suitable modifications will be sent to the same examiner and the reports received thereon by the Chairperson shall be communicated to the Registrar Evaluation.

No candidate shall, however, be permitted to submit the EBP project report more than two times.

The EBP project report may be published in any form after obtaining necessary permission from the University.

VIVA-VOCE EXAMINATION

Viva-Voce examination shall be conducted after the receipt of the satisfactory report, on the scholarly EBP project report from all the examiners. The Viva-Voce examination shall be conducted by a Board constituted as follows:

- i. Guide/Chairperson
- ii. Guide/Co-Guide (in case Guide is not the Chairperson)
- iii. At least one of the external examiners shall be present at the Viva-Voce examination.

However, under extraordinary circumstances, where any external examiner cannot be present at the Viva-Voce examination, the Vice-Chancellor may appoint any external substitute examiner from the panel constituted by the Board of Research/Doctoral Studies or respective Committee.

Teachers and research scholars of the concerned departments/institutions may be invited as observers only to attend the Viva-Voce examination.

The Viva-Voce examination is primarily designed to test the understanding of the candidate of the subject matter of the project report including methodology employed and his/her competence in the general field of study. Since the points raised by the examiners about the project report are to be clarified during the Viva-Voce examination, the report of the examiners



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who adjudicated the project report will be made available to the Board for Viva-Voce examination. The candidate shall produce all the relevant documents, materials, and preparations etc., concerned with the project during Viva-Voce examination.

Members of the Board for the Viva-Voce examination shall report specifically on whether the candidate's performance on the examination is satisfactory and therefore be considered as accepted or nor accepted.

A candidate who is not successful at the Viva-Voce examination may be permitted to undergo the Viva-Voce examination for a second time after a period of three months. No candidate shall be permitted to take the Viva-Voce examination on more than two occasions.

AWARD OF DNP. DEGREE

The degree will be awarded by the University, after the candidate successfully completes Viva-Voce examination. The Chairperson shall consolidate the recommendations for the award of DNP degree based on the following:

- i. The report of examiners who adjudicated the EBP project report.
- ii. Evaluation of the candidate's performance in the Viva-Voce examination.

The Chairperson shall forward the consolidated and individual reports with recommendation to the Registrar (DNP/Ph.D. Evaluation) of the University. Based on these reports, the University shall award the DNP (Critical Care) degree after the recommendations are approved by the Vice-Chancellor.



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FOUNDATIONS OF DNP PRACTICE

Placement: Semester 1

Theory Hours :30, Credits :02

Course description:

This foundational course focuses on analyzing DNP competencies, role and scholarship as the foundation for scholarly practice at the DNP level

Unit	Hrs.	Topic
I	5	Foundations of science and scientific inquiry- epistemological and ontological bases for scientific methods, theory and knowledge
II	5	Sources of evidence, theory and knowledge development for practice
III	3	Practice inquiry as a means of guiding science-based practice
IV	15	Fundamental components of DNP practice: -Evidence based practice, leadership, innovation/change, interprofessional collaboration/teams and quality & safety
V	2	DNP competencies and role

Evidence Based Project Planning (EBP -I)-15 hours /1 credit

- Selection of clinical problem/practice question (PICOT format)
- Search literature and identify most relevant evidence, critical appraisal of the evidence
- Institution Research Review Presentation -EBP -I : Clinical Problem /Question Presentation

Examination

S.No	Assessment	Marks
1.	Internal Assessment (Session Exam)	25
2.	Final theory College Exam	25
Grand Total		50



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Leadership (Organizational & Systems) For Quality Improvement In Nursing & Healthcare Including Transformational Leadership

Placement: Semester 1

Theory Hours :45, Credits :03

Course description: This course will prepare the learners to function in a nursing leadership role and an executive position in a healthcare organization

Unit	Hrs.	Topic
I.	3	Theories of organizational change and its application
II.	3	Systems leadership
III.	3	Transformational leadership
IV.	3	Organizational culture
V.	3	Communications
VI.	3	Systems thinking
VII.	3	Models For Personal Leadership
VIII.	10	Functions of organizational leader- Critiquing health care trends and research to support implementation of innovative practices, enhancing system outcomes, analyzing external and internal measures of quality, safety, customer satisfaction and developing operational approaches to maximize organizational effectiveness.
IX.	4	Optimum utilization of human capital and HR management within the nursing organization
X.	5	Quality improvement- regulations & accreditation, patient involvement, collaboration and literature review
XI.	5	QI Methods- Clinical audit, Plan do study act (PDSA), Model For Improvement, Performance Bench Marking, Process Mapping, Root Cause Analysis, Decision Trees Etc.

Examination

S.No	Assessment	Marks
1.	Internal Assessment (Session Exam)	25
2.	Final theory College Exam	25
Grand Total		50



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Clinical Practicum I- Advanced Health Assessment & Integration of advanced pathophysiology & advanced pharmacology

Placement: Semester 1

Practical Hours: 120, Credits: 02

Competency: The Management of critically ill with complex critical care conditions- Special focus on complex critical care nursing involving advanced assessment, and integrating pathophysiology and pharmacology

Clinical Posting:

- Medical ICU (Includes hematology posting)
- Surgical ICU (Includes OT posting)
- Cardio/Cardio thoracic (CT) ICU
- Emergency Department (Includes Trauma)
- Other ICUs such as Neuro ICU/Burns/ Nephro & Dialysis/Neonatal & Pediatric ICU/ OBS & Gynae



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Translational methods for practice inquiry (EBP methods)

Placement: Semester II

Practical Hours :45, Credits :03

Course description

Provides opportunity for the students to acquire knowledge and skill in the principles of evidence-based practice that will assist in moving clinical practice to an evidence-based foundation

Unit	Hrs.	Topic
I	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Essential principles of Evidence based Nursing Practice• Skills and Tools of evidence-based nursing practice
II	30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Steps of evidence-based practice:• Formulating a question,• searching and appraising the literature/evidence• using the best evidence to direct quality care
III	5	Differentiation between evidence-based practice, quality improvement and research utilization
IV	5	The current and future leadership and innovative roles of DNPs for quality and safety standards in intra and interprofessional collaboration to implement change, evidence-based change and evaluation

Evidence Based Project Proposal (EBP -II)-30 hours /2 credits

- Finalize practice decision/change and prepare EBP project proposal
- EBP Project Proposal Preparation
- Research Review Committee & Ethical committee presentation



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MGM Educational Campus, Plot No. 1 & 2, Sector-1, Kamothe, Navi Mumbai – 410 209.

Internal Examination Theory:

Translational methods for practice inquiry (EBP methods)

Item	Marks	Weightage	Total
Session Exam I	50	50	15
Systematic Review	50	50	15
Total	100	100	30

University Examination

	Subject	Internal	External	Total	Duration
Theory	Translational methods for practice inquiry (EBP methods)	30	70	100	03 hours
Practical	EBP-II Project Proposal Defense	-	100	100	



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Applied Statistical Methods For Practice Inquiry

Placement: Semester II

Practical Hours :30, Credits :02

Course description

The course focuses on application of statistical methods for practice inquiry

Unit	Hrs.	Topic
I	15	Identification of key variables, planning and implementation of data collection plan, data analysis for an evidence-based practice or quality improvement project
II	15	Application of statistical methods, interpretation of findings, reporting findings and evaluation of the project

Internal Examination Theory:

Applied Statistical Methods for Practice Inquiry

Item	Marks	Weightage	Total
Session Exam I	50	50	15
Term paper	50	50	15
Total	100	100	30

University Examination

	Subject	Internal	External	Total	Duration
Theory	Applied statistical methods for practice inquiry	30	70	100	03 hours



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Clinical Practicum II- Advanced Health Assessment & Integration of advanced pathophysiology & advanced pharmacology

Placement: Semester II

Practical Hours :120, Credits :02

Competency: The Management of critically ill with complex critical care conditions- Special focus on complex critical care nursing involving advanced assessment, and integrating pathophysiology and pharmacology

Clinical Posting:

- Medical ICU (Includes hematology posting)
- Surgical ICU (Includes OT posting)
- Cardio/Cardio thoracic (CT) ICU
- Emergency Department (Includes Trauma)
- Other ICUs such as Neuro ICU/Burns/ Nephro & Dialysis/Neonatal & Pediatric ICU/ OBS & Gynae



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Informatics in transformation of Health care

Placement: Semester III

Practical Hours :30, Credits :02

Course description

The course is designed to develop competencies in the use of healthcare information systems and technology to support and improve patient care/healthcare system and to provide leadership within the healthcare system/academic settings

Unit	Hrs.	Topic
I	5	Health care information systems/technology and patient care technology
II	5	Managing individual and aggregate level information
III	10	Use of information systems/technology resources
IV	10	Provide leadership in the use of nursing informatics within the healthcare system/academic settings

Examination

S.No	Assessment	Marks
1.	Internal Assessment (Session Exam)	25
2.	Final theory College Exam	25
Grand Total		50



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MGM Educational Campus, Plot No. 1 & 2, Sector-1, Kamothe, Navi Mumbai – 410 209.

The Business of Healthcare

Placement: Semester III

Practical Hours :15, Credits :01

Course description

The course will prepare the DNP students to function as the business and strategic leader in healthcare settings

Unit	Hrs.	Topic
I	5	Healthcare financing and reimbursement
II	5	Regulations and financing to provide advanced practice and manage effectively the business of practice
III	5	Role of DNP as contributing member of executive team in business, financial, organizational change and strategic planning

Examination

S.No	Assessment	Marks
1.	Internal Assessment (Session Exam)	25
2.	Final theory College Exam	25
Grand Total		50



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MGM Educational Campus, Plot No. 1 & 2, Sector-1, Kamothe, Navi Mumbai – 410 209.

Clinical Practicum III- Management of critically ill with complex critical care conditions & EBP project implementation of practice change/data collection

Placement: Semester III

Practical Hours :120, Credits :02

Competency: The Management of critically ill with complex critical care conditions- Special focus on complex critical care nursing involving advanced assessment, and integrating pathophysiology and pharmacology

Clinical Posting:

- Medical ICU (Includes hematology posting)
- Surgical ICU (Includes OT posting)
- Cardio/Cardio thoracic (CT) ICU
- Emergency Department (Includes Trauma)
- Other ICUs such as Neuro ICU/Burns/ Nephro & Dialysis/Neonatal & Pediatric ICU/ OBS & Gynae

Evidence Based Project Implementation (EBP -III)-15 hours /1 credit
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project Implementation• Research Instrument validation• EBP Data Collection



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Population health strategies for improving nation's health and Healthcare policy & advocacy

Placement: Semester IV

Practical Hours :30, Credits :02

Course description

The course focuses on population health strategies and equips the students to participate in policy making and advocacy for nursing and health care.

Unit	Hrs.	Topic
I	10	Population health strategies- Clinical care, Patient and Provider Engagement, Healthcare tech initiatives, Clinician engagement and care coordination Community services
II	10	<u>Healthcare policy</u> - Global and national health care trends, National Health Policy & planning
III	5	Role of DNPs in healthcare policy development
IV	5	Role of DNPs in effective use of advocacy for the growth and development of nursing

Examination

S.No	Assessment	Marks
1.	Internal Assessment (Session Exam)	25
2.	Final theory College Exam	25
Grand Total		50



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Clinical Practicum IV- Management of critically ill with complex critical care conditions

EBP project implementation and evaluation of outcomes /data collection

Placement: Semester IV

Practical Hours :120, Credits :02

Competency: The Management of critically ill with complex critical care conditions- Special focus on complex critical care nursing involving advanced assessment, and integrating pathophysiology and pharmacology

Clinical Posting:

- Medical ICU (Includes hematology posting)
- Surgical ICU (Includes OT posting)
- Cardio/Cardio thoracic (CT) ICU
- Emergency Department (Includes Trauma)
- Other ICUs such as Neuro ICU/Burns/ Nephro & Dialysis/Neonatal & Pediatric ICU/ OBS & Gynae

Evidence Based Project -Analysis (EBP -IV)-30 hours/ 2 credits
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Collection• Data Compilation• Data analysis



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Clinical Practicum V- Nursing Informatics Practicum

EBP Project Synopsis Submission

Placement: Semester V

Practical Hours :120, Credits :02

Competency: To develop competencies in the use of healthcare information systems and technology to support and improve patient care/healthcare system and to provide leadership within the healthcare system/academic settings

Clinical Posting:

- Medical ICU (Includes hematology posting)
- Surgical ICU (Includes OT posting)
- Cardio/Cardio thoracic (CT) ICU
- Emergency Department (Includes Trauma)
- Other ICUs such as Neuro ICU/Burns/ Nephro & Dialysis/Neonatal & Pediatric ICU/ OBS & Gynae

Evidence Based Project -Analysis (EBP -IV)- 45 hours /3 credits
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data analysis/ Report writing• Preparation of synopsis• Dissemination planning-publications/Presentations-Poster /Oral



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Clinical Practicum VI- Leadership Practicum

EBP Project Report Submission

Placement: Semester VI

Practical Hours :120, Credits :02

Competency: to demonstrate leadership and implement quality improvement methodologies relevant to patient care.

Clinical Posting:

- Medical ICU (Includes hematology posting)
- Surgical ICU (Includes OT posting)
- Cardio/Cardio thoracic (CT) ICU
- Emergency Department (Includes Trauma)
- Other ICUs such as Neuro ICU/Burns/ Nephro & Dialysis/Neonatal & Pediatric ICU/
OBS & Gynae

Evidence Based Project -Analysis (EBP -IV)- 30 hours / 2 credits
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• EBP Project report submission• Publication



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DNP (Critical Care) EBP PROJECT GUIDELINES

GENERAL GUIDELINES

EBP project:

The topic/clinical problem/question should be derived from clinical experience focusing on evidence-based practice. Its main focus is to identify clinical problem/question and develop an evidence-based approach to address the problem. The project must be practice-based and result in a change or improvement in practice. It should be relevant to critical care nursing that will add evidence for advanced clinical practice. The practice change/decision must be implemented and evaluated in any of the critical care settings.

- a) **Scope for changing the EBP project topic:** The project topic can be changed within 6 months to one year.
- b) Submission of **ethical clearance certificate** within 6 months after EBP project proposal.
- c) Ethical clearance/permission from the Institution/Concerned Authorities should be obtained from where the project is being implemented.
- d) **Project implementation (Implementation of practice decision/change) and evaluation (Evaluation of outcomes)/Data collection:** During clinical practicum III & IV (120 + 120 hours)
- e) **Data analysis:** IV Semester
- f) **Submission of final synopsis** of EBP project work leading to DNP degree after approval of all half yearly reports, passing in all courses in every semester and on permission to submit the synopsis to PhD/DNP registration committee by end of V Semester.
- g) **Project Report writing:** VI Semester
- h) **Submission of project report** along with the application within 3 months after the approval of the final synopsis ie. 3 months before completion of VI semester and permission to be sought by Ph.D/DNP registration committee to submit the EBP project report.
- i) **Final Viva-Voce examination** after the acceptance and approval of DNP EBP project report by the examiners (date to be notified by the University).



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GUIDELINES FOR PREPARING EBP PROJECT PROPOSAL

DNP Project Proposal Written Format

1. Title page
2. Abstract
3. Table of Contents
4. Body of the paper
 - a) Background and significance of proposed project
 - i. Practice problem- PICOT question format:
 - ii. Introductory statement
 - iii. Context of the problem
 - iv. Scope of problem
 - v. Consequences of the problem
 - vi. Proposed project/evidence-based intervention
 - vii. Objectives/purpose of the proposed project
 - viii. Theoretical and operational definition of variables
 - b) Review and Synthesis of the Evidence in the Literature (search for and collect the most relevant best evidence-hierarchy of evidence)
 - c) Theoretical/conceptual framework/process improvement model (Discussion of the framework and how it will guide your project)
 - d) Project Description (Project design & methods)
 - i. Setting
 - ii. Congruence of DNP Project to selected organization's mission, goals, and strategic plan
 - iii. Description of stakeholders and strategies to promote engagement
 - iv. Site-specific facilitators and barriers to implementation
 - v. Description of evidence-based intervention
 - vi. Procedures
 - IRB submission process- IRB format
 - Implementation and Evaluation plan-measures and instruments
 - Dissemination Plan



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- e) Timeline of project phases (submission of IRB to DNP presentation)
- f) Resources (personnel, technology, budget, etc.)
- g) Feasibility and **Sustainability plan**
- h) References
- i) Appendices (instruments, informed consent form, etc.)



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FINAL DNP PROJECT REPORT FORMAT

The report should include:

1. DNP Project Title Page
2. Abstract
3. Acknowledgements
4. Table of Contents
5. Body of the Paper
 - a) Background and significance of proposed project/intervention
 - i. Practice problem- PICOT question format
 - ii. Introductory statement
 - iii. Context of the problem
 - iv. Scope of the problem
 - v. Consequences of the problem
 - vi. Evidence-based intervention
 - vii. Purpose of the project
 - b) Review of Literature (Explain the search methods used, summarize key findings from synthesis of the literature that support the need for the project, including gap identification and proposed practice change)
 - c) Theoretical/conceptual framework/process improvement model (Discussion of the framework and how it guided your project)
 - d) Project description-Project Design & methods
 - i. Setting
 - ii. Target Sample
 - iii. Congruence of DNP project to selected organization's mission, goals, and strategic plan
 - iv. Description of stakeholders
 - v. Site-specific facilitators and barriers to implementation
 - vi. Description of Evidence-based Intervention



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vii. Procedure

- IRB Approval
 - Implementation
 - Evaluation-measures and instruments
 - Dissemination plan
-
- e) ~~Results~~/Outcome
 - f) Discussion
 - g) Implications for practice, education, policy, and future research
 - h) Limitations
 - i) Summary/Conclusion
 - j) References
 - k) Appendices



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EVALUTION CRITERIA- TERM PAPER

Name of the Student: - _____

Batch:- _____ Date:- _____

Topic:- _____

Total Marks–50

Marks obtained: - _____

Sr.No.	Criteria	Marks Assigned	Marks Obtained
1	Introduction	10	
2	Main body -Content Appropriateness	10	
3	Organization –Sub chapters/topics	10	
4	Illustration –Tables & Figures	10	
5	References	10	
	Total Marks	50	

Remarks:-----

Signature of Student

Signature of Guide



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MGM Educational Campus, Plot No. 1 & 2, Sector-1, Kamothe, Navi Mumbai – 410 209.

Term Paper -Structure

- Cover Sheet
- Table of Contents
- Introduction
- Main Body (Divided into Sub-Chapters)
- Conclusion
- References



MGM INSTITUTE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

(Deemed to be University) **Grade 'A++' Accredited by NAAC**

MGM Educational Campus, Plot No. 1 & 2, Sector-1, Kamothe, Navi Mumbai – 410 209.

EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

Names of the Student: _____

Topic: _____

TotalMarks:50

Date : _____

S.N	Criteria	1	2	3	4	5
1	Clearly defined Research Question					
2	Relevant search strategy					
3	Adequate Literature reviews					
4	Use of relevant studies					
5	Appropriate Inclusion & Exclusion Criteria					
6	Appropriate Data extraction					
7	Quality assessment					
8	Logical presentation of data analysis with appropriate guidelines					
9	Appropriate discussion of the findings					
10	Conclusion					
	Total Marks					

Remark: _____

Date &Signature of the Students

Date & Signature of the Guide



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MGM Educational Campus, Plot No. 1 & 2, Sector-1, Kamothe, Navi Mumbai – 410 209.

QUESTIONPAPERFORMAT (Sessional /Internal Exams)

Marks:50

Time: 2hours

Q1. Write Short Answers on any 4 out of 5

(20marks)

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)

Q2. Long Answer Questions any 2 out of 3

(30marks)

- | | |
|-----|-----|
| a.i | (2) |
| ii | (5) |
| iii | (8) |
| b.i | (2) |
| ii | (5) |
| iii | (8) |
| c.i | (2) |
| ii | (5) |
| iii | (8) |



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MGM Educational Campus, Plot No. 1 & 2, Sector-1, Kamothe, Navi Mumbai – 410 209.

QUESTIONPAPERFORMAT(UNIVERSITYEXAMINATION)

Marks:70

Time: 3 hours

Q1.WriteShortAnsweronany5outof6

(25marks)

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)
- f)

Q2.Long Answer Questions any 3 out of 4

(45marks)

- | | |
|--------|-----|
| a.i | (2) |
| ii | (5) |
| iii | (8) |
| b.i | (2) |
| ii | (5) |
| iii | (8) |
| c.i | (2) |
| ii | (5) |
| iii | (8) |
| . i ii | (2) |
| | (5) |
| iii | (8) |