



## Certificate in Neonatal High Dependency & Special Care (PG 25806)

QAI Accredited Level 8 Special Purpose Award (10 ECTS Credits)  
(Pending NMBI approval)

### Programme Aim

The aim of this programme is to provide the learner with the opportunity to develop and enhance theoretical knowledge and clinical skills to care for the infant in the neonatal HDU/SCBU.

**Programme Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of the programme, the learner will be able to:

- Demonstrate a detailed knowledge of newborn adaptation from intrauterine to extrauterine life, and its application to the care of the infant in the neonatal HDU/SCBU
- Critically analyse the evidence relating to the nursing/midwifery care of the infant in the neonatal HDU/SCBU with a focus on respiratory, nutritional and neuroprotective care
- Demonstrate evidence based clinical practice knowledge and skills when caring for intrauterine growth restricted (IUGR), small for gestational age (SGA) and growing premature infants in the neonatal HDU/SCBU
- Critically appraise the role of the nurse/midwife in the promotion of family centred care and family integrated care in the HDU/SCBU
- Demonstrate competence in the provision of care to the infant, in the neonatal HDU/SCBU, within the professional role of the nurse/midwife.

**Programme Structure:** This part-time, single module programme, delivered over twelve weeks, integrates both theoretical and clinical components. Learners will be required to complete the following academic and clinical assessments: Multiple Choice Questionnaire, Oral Presentation, Clinical Practice Portfolio and Competency Assessment.

**Entry Requirements:** Programme applicants must:

- Be nurses/ midwives/ children's nurses actively registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland.
- Be working in a HSE and/or HSE funded healthcare environment (Section 38).
- Be working in a neonatal HDU/SCBU for the duration of the programme.
- Submit a fully completed and signed Declaration Form, confirming arrangements are in place for the learner to have a designated clinical supervisor for the duration of the clinical placement.
- Be available to attend all programme dates.

**Programme Venue/Dates:** The programme is scheduled for delivery in the following Centres. **\*Applicants must indicate their preferred Centre on the Programme Application Form:**

#### CME Coombe

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2025  
Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2025  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026

#### CME Cork University Maternity Hospital

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025  
Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026

### Further Programme Information Available From:

- **Kevin Mulligan, Programme Co-Ordinator**, Centre for Midwifery Education, Coombe Hospital, Cork Street, Dublin 8: Email: [kmulligan@coombe.ie](mailto:kmulligan@coombe.ie) Tel: 0860324515 or Triona Cowman, Director, Centre for Midwifery Education, Email: [tcowman@coombe.ie](mailto:tcowman@coombe.ie) Tel: 0868166277
- **Elaine Whelan Programme Co-Ordinator**, Centre of Midwifery Education, Cork University Maternity Hospital, Wilton, Co. Cork: Email: [elaine.whelan@hse.ie](mailto:elaine.whelan@hse.ie) Tel: 0870947075 or Mary O' Connor, Director, Centre of Midwifery Education, Email: [Mary.OConnor3@hse.ie](mailto:Mary.OConnor3@hse.ie) Tel: 0871318434

### Application Process:

Closing date for receipt of completed **Programme Application Form and Site Declaration Form** is **Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2025**. Completed forms to be returned to the relevant Programme Coordinator.