

NZATS NOTICE - CHANGES TO DIPLOMA effective 2009

Diploma in Applied Science (Anaesthetic Technology)

As per discussion and debate at Conference and AGM - NZATS and AUT have agreed changes to the training programme to bring it into line with current trends in clinical practice and to address deficiencies in patient care activities not currently covered. Changes have also been made as a direct result of feedback from NZATS members, particularly those involved in education.

Summary of Changes

Year 2

1. “Special Topic”

New paper introduced.

As per AUT requirements, called Special Topic for this year only.

In 2010, paper will be renamed. To be advised in due course.

Outline of content:

- Patient Assessment:
 - Pre-op anaesthetic assessment
 - Cardiovascular, respiratory, neurological assessment
 - Post operative bleeding & wound assessment; Waterlow Scoring
 - Introduction to pain assessment
- Circulating Skills
 - Underlying principles of practice
 - Circulating roles & responsibilities
- Applied Microbiology

In 2009 this paper will be sat in Year 2, semester 2. In 2010, this paper will move to Year 1, semester 2 and Biophysics will move to Year 2, semester 2.

Final draft to be signed off March 2009.

2. Human Anatomy & Physiology

- 2 papers now condensed to one HAP paper. Whole human body covered in slightly less detail. No block course but practical manual issued to trainees to complete.
- This is a Year 2, semester 1 paper.

Year 3

Anaesthesia II Block Course

- We are trialling an Online Block Course for this paper this year. This will be completed over a 2 week period in the trainees own hospital – totalling 6 hours of study time. Charge Technicians should roster trainees sitting this course non-clinical time to complete it. AUT suggest 3 x 2 hour periods over 2 weeks.
- Further update will be advised in March this year.

Anaesthesia III

Changes to this paper include;

- Applied pharmacology section changed to foundation topics in pharmacology. 4 week section covering principles of pharmacodynamics, kinetics, toxicology, review of nervous system related to pharmacology, basic terminology etc. Underpinning principles will be covered to enable trainees to understand applied aspects of pharmacology. This section of the paper will be written and marked by an AUT Pharmacology lecturer.
- Paediatrics remains same.
- Crisis Management remains same.
- Surgical Specialties replaced with Co-existing disease in Anaesthesia. Surgical specialties covered adequately by Technology II manual.
- Co-existing diseases will include anaesthetic considerations for:
Diabetes, cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease, drug & alcohol dependence.etc.

Final draft of changes to be signed off March 09

CURRENT PROGRAMME (upto Jan 09)

YEAR OF TRAINING	SEMESTER 1 (Feb-Jun)	SEMESTER 2 (Jul – Nov)
Year 1	Anaesthesia I	Biophysics
	Anaesthetic Technology 1 Practical Manual all year	
Year 2	Human Anatomy & Physiology 1A	Human Anatomy & Physiology 1B
Year 3	Anaesthesia II	Anaesthesia III
	Anaesthetic Technology II Practical Manual all year	
Year 4	NZATS Registration Exam Feb/Mar	

KEY

BLUE = Theory Papers

PURPLE = Practical Manuals

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NEW PROGRAMME from Jan 09

YEAR OF TRAINING	SEMESTER 1 (Mar-Jun)	SEMESTER 2 (Jul – Nov)
Year 1	Anaesthesia I	Biophysics
	Anaesthetic Technology 1 Practical Manual all year	
Year 2	Human Anatomy & Physiology (reduced to 1 paper from 2)	Special Topic (New paper)
Year 3	Anaesthesia II	Anaesthesia III
	Anaesthetic Technology II Practical Manual all year	
Year 4	NZATS Registration Exam Feb/Mar or Sep/Oct	

KEY **BLUE** = Theory Papers **PURPLE** = Practical Manuals

Essential Enrolment Advice

- All trainees commencing their training at the beginning of this year (2009) will follow the new programme as set out above.
- For trainees about to enter their 2nd year; their academic year will be as follows:

YEAR OF TRAINING	SEMESTER 1 (Mar-Jun)	SEMESTER 2 (Jul – Nov)
Year 2	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	Special Topic (New paper)

- They will already have passed their Biophysics and so will be sitting the Special Topic together with the 1st year trainees. Year 3 of their training will be the same as above.
- Trainees about to enter their 3rd and final year of training will not be able to sit the Special Topic as part of their training programme.

Trainees with nursing qualifications or other relevant degrees

- Diploma trained nurses can still complete their training in a minimum of 2 years. To achieve this, in their first year they will have to sit 2 papers (+ Anaesthetic Technology practical manual) at the same time as follows:

YEAR OF TRAINING	SEMESTER 1 (Mar-Jun)	SEMESTER 2 (Jul – Nov)
Year 1	<p><u>Exempt from Anaesthesia 1</u></p> <p>Human Anatomy & Physiology</p> <p>(cross-creditable if RN = NZ degree trained within 10 years – otherwise no guarantees)</p> <p><i>Seek advice from AUT</i></p>	<p>Special Topic</p> <p>(may be cross-creditable if RN has worked as OR nurse)</p> <p>Seek advice from AUT</p> <hr/> <p>Biophysics</p>
	<p>Anaesthetic Technology I Manual all year</p>	
	<p>Anaesthesia II</p>	<p>Anaesthesia III</p>
Year 2	<p>Anaesthetic Technology II Practical Manual all year</p>	
Year 3	<p>NZATS Registration Exam</p> <p>Feb/Mar</p>	

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- Degree trained nurses (or other Health Professionals with degree deemed relevant to anaesthesia by NZATS committee) will complete the Graduate Certificate programme as follows:

YEAR OF TRAINING	SEMESTER 1 (Mar-Jun)	SEMESTER 2 (Jul – Nov)
Year 1	Anaesthetic Tech 1 only this semester (detailed below)	Independent Learning Paper
	Anaesthetic Technology I Manual Not required by AUT but <u>must</u> be completed as orientation into anaesthesia. National Assessment must also be passed before trainee can enrol in 2 nd year papers). Trainee does not have to enrol in this paper.	
Year 2	Anaesthesia II	Anaesthesia III
	Anaesthetic Technology II Practical Manual all year	
Year 3	NZATS Registration Exam Feb/Mar	

Refer to “Recognition for Prior Learning (RPL) advice on AUT website for clarification or contact AUT Liaison Officer via NZATS website.

Please contact AUT if you require further advice regarding enrolment issues