

Policy

Course Pre-Requisites



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INTRODUCTION

Oncology Massage Limited (OML) runs the only nationally standardised oncology massage training program in Australia. To maintain these standards, we must ensure that students registering for, and attending, our courses meet reasonable course pre-requisites so that they are best-placed to safely and effectively deliver oncology massage treatments to people with a history or diagnosis of cancer.

The determination of course pre-requisites needs to balance the following three goals:

- To promote and disseminate best-practice oncology massage techniques
- To maximise the availability and number of competent oncology massage therapists
- To maintain and develop a sustainable not-for-profit business strategy.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all programs run by OML in Australia.

- Pre-requisites for programs run internationally – for example, in New Zealand – will follow the intent of this policy as closely as possible and will be determined on a case-by-case basis
- Pre-requisites for non-core programs – for example, Oncology Massage for Beauty Therapists, and Palliative Care – will follow the intent of this policy and will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

COURSE REGISTRATION

Eligibility Criteria

Students wishing to register for OML training courses must be in good health with no chronic communicable illness, and must comply (or be prepared to comply with) the eligibility criteria outlined in [Table 1](#).

Required Core Units of Competency

In the eligibility criteria for registration for OM-2 and OM-3, there is mention of “an equivalent qualification with the required core units of competency”. The required core units of competency are listed in [Table 2](#).

If a potential student has a qualification that is not listed in Table 1 and they believe it is equivalent, they may seek a review of that qualification by supplying contact details about the course and the course organisers, and providing evidence of attendance at, and successful completion of, the qualification. OML will respond with a decision within 10 working days.

Professional Associations

In the criteria for registration for Oncology Massage Module 2, one of the pre-requisites is membership of an eligible professional massage association. The associations that OML recognises as eligible are listed in [Table 3](#).

If a potential student is a member of an association not listed in [Table 3](#) and they believe it to be worthy of recognition as an eligible association, they may seek a review by supplying the website address for the association, and providing evidence of current membership. OML will respond with a decision within 10 working days.

Immunisation

As OML expands its program offerings and moves into more training venues, we expect that pre-requisite immunisations will become more commonplace, perhaps even mandatory. OML will always keep the best interests of our volunteer patients foremost in our decision-making and meet the requirements of our venue partners and, where there is flexibility, we will seek to satisfy the wishes of our students as well.

Under certain circumstances, students will need to be immunised before they attend a particular training course. These circumstances are where courses require students to work with at-risk volunteer patients (see [Table 1](#)), and/or where venues require students to be immunised (see example below).

Example – Austin Health (Melbourne)

Austin Health currently provides our only training venue for OM-3 and OM-4 training courses. They require OML to provide a written statement at least 2 weeks before the commencement of a training course confirming that we have sighted documentary evidence of our students' immunisation against a range of medical conditions.

Where immunisation is required, potential students must provide to OML in a timely fashion documentary evidence of their immunisation or screening against the following medical conditions:

- Chicken Pox – course of 2 injections, or a history of disease, or positive serology
- Diphtheria, Pertussis & Tetanus – past record of childhood and adolescent immunisations, and evidence of a booster adolescent/adult dose of dTpa
- Hepatitis B – history of 3 injections and evidence of blood levels >10 mIU/ml after vaccination
- Measles/Mumps/Rubella – 2 doses of measles-containing vaccine (in those born during or after 1966), or a history of disease
- Tuberculosis – a negative result within 12 months prior to the training course.

If a prospective student does not have documentary evidence of their immunisation, they will need to visit a General Practitioner to receive immunisations or obtain documentation, and achieve compliance before they can attend the training course.

An Annual Influenza Vaccination is recommended but is not compulsory.

Insurance Cover

Where students are registering for any course other than an OM-1, they must have insurance coverage as prescribed by their eligible professional association. Registering students must provide a copy of the Certificate of Currency from their insurance provider with their course registration.

Ineligibility for Registration

If a student fails to comply with the stated eligibility criteria for registration for an OML training course, OML will:

- Reject that student's application for registration
- Explain to the student why the application has been rejected
- Explain what that student must do to become an eligible applicant
- Refund any course fees pre-paid by the student – \$50 may be withheld as either a deposit for a later course or as an administration fee.

COURSE ATTENDANCE

Eligibility Criteria

Students wishing to attend a particular OML training course must:

- Have fully pre-paid the course fees
- Be in good health with no communicable illnesses
- Be compliant with any immunisation requirements outlined above
- Have completed the required pre-reading listed in [Table 4](#).

Non-Attendance due to Personal Circumstances

If a student is unable to attend a particular OML training course for which they have registered, OML will consider each situation on a case-by-case basis and may withhold up to \$150 of the course fee.

To minimise this charge, the student must:

- Advise OML as soon as possible of their inability to attend
- Supply a medical certificate or a statutory declaration explaining the circumstances.

Ineligibility for Attendance

If a student fails to comply with the stated eligibility criteria for attendance at a particular OML training course, OML will treat each situation on a case-by-case basis and:

- May withdraw the offer to attend that particular OML training course
- Will explain to the student why the offer to attend has been withdrawn
- Will explain what that student must do to be able to attend a future OML training course
- Partially refund the course fees, withholding up to \$150, and/or transfer the student to a later course.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

The following documents provide relevant related information:

- Policy – Course Cancellation
- Selected Bibliography (see [Table 5](#))
- Acronyms (see [Table 6](#))

Policy – Course Pre-Requisites

Table 1: Eligibility Criteria for Registration

Course	Pre-Requisite Qualifications & Memberships	Immunisation	National Police History Check
OM-1	Recommended – Current Senior First Aid Certificate – HLTAID003 (expires every 3 years)	Recommended – may depend on the policies and practices of the venue	No
OM-2	Completed OM-1 A Certificate IV in Massage Therapy Practice, or a Diploma in Remedial Massage, or a Diploma in Bowen Therapy, or an equivalent qualification with the <u>required core units of competency</u> Current Senior First Aid Certificate – HLTAID003 (expires every 3 years) Current registration with an eligible <u>professional massage association</u>	Recommended – may depend on the policies and practices of the venue	No
OM-2 (Refresher)	OM-2 pre-requisites Completed OM-2	Recommended – may depend on the policies and practices of the venue	No
OM-3	OM-2 pre-requisites Completed OM-2	Required	Yes
OM-4	OM-3 pre-requisites Completed OM-3	Required	Yes
Advanced Tutorial	Completed OM-1 & OM-2 after Jan/2014 Completed OM-1 & OM-2 before Jan/2014, and completed an OM-2 Refresher	Recommended – will depend on the tutorial and/or the policies and practices of the venue	Yes
Mini Tutorial	On the OML National Therapist Listing Completed OM-1 & OM-2 after Jan/2014 Completed OM-1 & OM-2 before Jan/2014, and completed an OM-2 Refresher	Recommended – will depend on the tutorial and/or the policies and practices of the venue	Yes

Table 2: Required Core Units of Competency

AQSF Code	Competency
BSBWOR203B	Work effectively with others
HLTAP401B	Confirm physical health status
HLTCOM404C	Communicate effectively with clients
HLTCOM405D	Administer a practice
HLTCOM406C	Make referrals to other health care professionals when appropriate
HLTCOM408D	Use specific health terminology to communicate effectively
HLTAID003	Provide first aid
HLHIR301C	Communicate and work effectively in health
HLTIN301C	Comply with infection control policies and procedures
HLTREM401D	Work within a massage framework
HLTREM406C	Provide massage treatment
HLTREM407C	Plan massage treatment
HLTREM408C	Apply massage assessment framework
HLTREM409C	Perform massage health assessment
HLTWHS300A	Contribute to WHS processes

Table 3: Eligible Professional Massage Associations

Acronym	Organisation
AAMT	Australian Association of Massage Therapists
AMT	Association of Massage Therapists
ANTA	Australian Natural Therapists Association
ATMS	Australian Traditional Medicine Society
BTFA	Bowen Therapists Federation of Australia
MA	Massage Australia
MAA	Massage Association of Australia Limited
MNZ	Massage New Zealand

Policy – Course Pre-Requisites

Table 4: Pre-Reading

Oncology Massage – Module 1

Policy – Code of Conduct	OML	Required
Policy – Course Pre-Requisites	OML	Required
Policy – Use of Photographic & Video Images	OML	Required
Nitrile Gloves	OML	Required
Bowen Moves & Symptom Management	OML	Required for Bowen Therapists Only
Dictionary	OML	Required
Men get Breast Cancer too	BCNA	Required
Lifestyle Risk Factors and the Primary Prevention of Cancer	CCA	Required
Completion of Hand Hygiene Australia Online Quiz	HHA	Required ¹
Fascial mechanoreceptors and their potential role in deep tissue manipulation – excerpt from: Schleip R 2003: Fascial plasticity – a new neurobiological explanation. Journal of Bodywork and Movement Therapies 7(1):11-19	JBMT	Required
Massage Therapy for Symptom Control: Outcome Study at a Major Cancer Centre (Barrie Cassileth, PhD & Andrew Vickers, PhD). Journal of Pain and Symptom Management, Vol. 28 No. 3, September 2004	JPSM	Required
Diagnosis And Treatment Of Lymphedema	USA-NLN	Required
Exercise	USA-NLN	Required
Healthy Habits for Patients at Risk for Lymphedema	USA-NLN	Required
Lymphedema Risk Reduction Practices	USA-NLN	Required
Lymphedema Risk Reduction Practices, Summary	USA-NLN	Required
Screening and Measurement for Early Detection of Breast Cancer Related Lymphedema	USA-NLN	Required
Medicine Hands 3rd Edition	Gayle MacDonald	Recommended
Quest for Life	Petrea King	Recommended
The Biology of Belief	Bruce Lipton	Recommended

Oncology Massage – Module 2

Module 1 Manual & Pre-Reading	OML	Required Revision
Module 2 Frequently Asked Questions	OML	Required
Molecular Biology and Structure of Normal Cells	OML	Required
Medicine Hands 3rd Edition	Gayle MacDonald	Required
Quest for Life	Petrea King	Required
The Biology of Belief	Bruce Lipton	Required

¹ Students should complete the Hand Hygiene Quiz, print out the certificate, and bring it to the course. The certificate must be produced before the close of Day 3, or no attendance certificate will be issued.

Policy – Course Pre-Requisites

Oncology Massage Module 2 (Refresher)

Module 1 Manual & Pre-Reading	OML	Required Revision
Module 2 Manual & Pre-Reading	OML	Required Revision

Oncology Massage – Module 3/Module 4

Required Revision

Module 1 Manual & Pre-Reading	OML	Required Revision
Module 2 Manual & Pre-Reading	OML	Required Revision
Medicine Hands (3rd Edition), especially Chapters 4-5, 7, 8-11	Gayle MacDonald	Required Revision
Massage for the Hospital Patient and Medically Frail Client, especially Chapters 3-5, 7-8, 10-12, pp 64-66 (cancer), pp 68-69 (ICU family waiting room), pp 178-180 (bone marrow & stem cell transplantation)	Gayle MacDonald	Required Revision

Oncology Massage – Mini Tutorial

Hand Hygiene Australia Online Quiz	HHA	Required Revision
Module 1 Manual	OML	Required Revision
Module 2 Manual	OML	Required Revision

Oncology Massage – Advanced Tutorial

Hand Hygiene Australia Online Quiz	HHA	Required Revision
Module 1 Manual	OML	Required Revision

Table 5: Selected Bibliography (Endorsed by Quest for Life)

Anatomy Trains (2nd Edition)	Thomas W. Myers
Anti Cancer – A New Way of Life	Dr David Servan-Schreiber
Cancer – A Nutritional/Biochemical Approach (2nd Edition)	Henry Osiecki
Molecules of Emotion	Candace B Pert
Slow Death by Rubber Duck	Rick Smith & Bruce Lourie
The Brain that Changes Itself	Norman Doidge MD
The Genie in your Genes	Dawson Church
The Human Body Identification Manual	
The Merck Manual of Medical Information (2nd Home Edition)	
The Power of Touch	Phyllis K Davis
The Relaxation Response	Herbert Benson & Miriam Klipper
Understanding the Messages of Your Body	Jean-Pierre Barral DO
Using the Power of Hope to Cope with Dying	Cathleen Fanslow-Brunjes
When the Body says No	Gabor Mate

Table 6: Acronyms

BCNA	Breast Cancer Network Australia
CCA	Cancer Council of Australia
HHA	Hand Hygiene Australia
JBMT	Journal of Bodywork & Movement Therapy
JPSM	Journal of Pain & Symptom Management
OML	Oncology Massage Limited
USA-NLN	United States National Lymphedema Network