

A Short Guide to Recording Clinical Logs

MSc Nursing Programme

Meeting The NMC Requirements of
The Fields of Nursing and Midwifery for the
Adult Nursing Programme
(formerly called EU directives)

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What do I need to do?

For all students completing the MSc adult programme, there is a requirement that you are able to demonstrate an understanding of the other fields of nursing and midwifery regulated by the Nursing and Midwifery Council.

To meet this requirement you will need to:

- Complete a guided portfolio that will help you to develop your knowledge and understanding
- Complete a clinical log in your OPAL account illustrating your awareness of the fields of nursing and midwifery

You will find the EU portfolio in your programme area on Brightspace. It is in document form so that you are able to easily download and complete.

The portfolio includes resources and you will to access additional sources. These can be accessed:-

- Via the library services
- By accessing relevant organisation websites

The clinical log supports your EU portfolio and is reviewed by your **Academic Assessor**.

The EU portfolio and accompanying clinical log are completed over the course of your programme and will require submission in year 3. There are formative opportunities for you to submit and acquire feedback in year 1 and 2 of your programme.

The submission date for the EU portfolio (including the clinical log) is on your assessment schedule. If you are concerned that this date cannot be met, you must apply for an extension.

How do I complete my clinical logs?

This short presentation explains how to complete your clinical logs, click [here](#)

In summary,



You will need to complete 8 reflections identifying your key learning from the experience.



They do not have a word limitation



They need to be presented clearly



They need to identify key learning and understanding of the fields of Nursing and Midwifery



Include an appropriate range of supporting literature.

Where are the clinical logs?

The clinical Logs are stored in your practice portfolio.
Log in to your OPAL account
Click on the continuous assessment Tab

The screenshot shows the BU Online Practice Assessment for Learning (OPAL) interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Help/Contact Us', 'View/Print', and 'Logout'. The user is logged in as 'Paula MSC' for the 'MSc Adult Nursing - BSANF (South-Pad)' course. The 'Continuous Assessment' tab is selected and circled. Below the tabs, there is a section for 'Clinical Logs' with 'Part Two' and 'Part Three' sections, each showing '0/0 Signed'. A 'View' button is visible. A speech bubble points to this button with the text 'Click on view'. Below the 'Clinical Logs' section, there is an 'Add new' button. A speech bubble points to this button with the text 'Click \'add new\' and the reflective template will open'. The 'Add new' button opens a form with fields for 'Title', 'Date of Clinical Log' (11/10/2021), 'Category', and 'Brief description of experience (do not include patient details)'. There are also text areas for 'What did you learn from the experience?' and 'How will this experience change your practice in the future?'. At the bottom, there are 'Save' and 'Save and Mark as Complete' buttons.

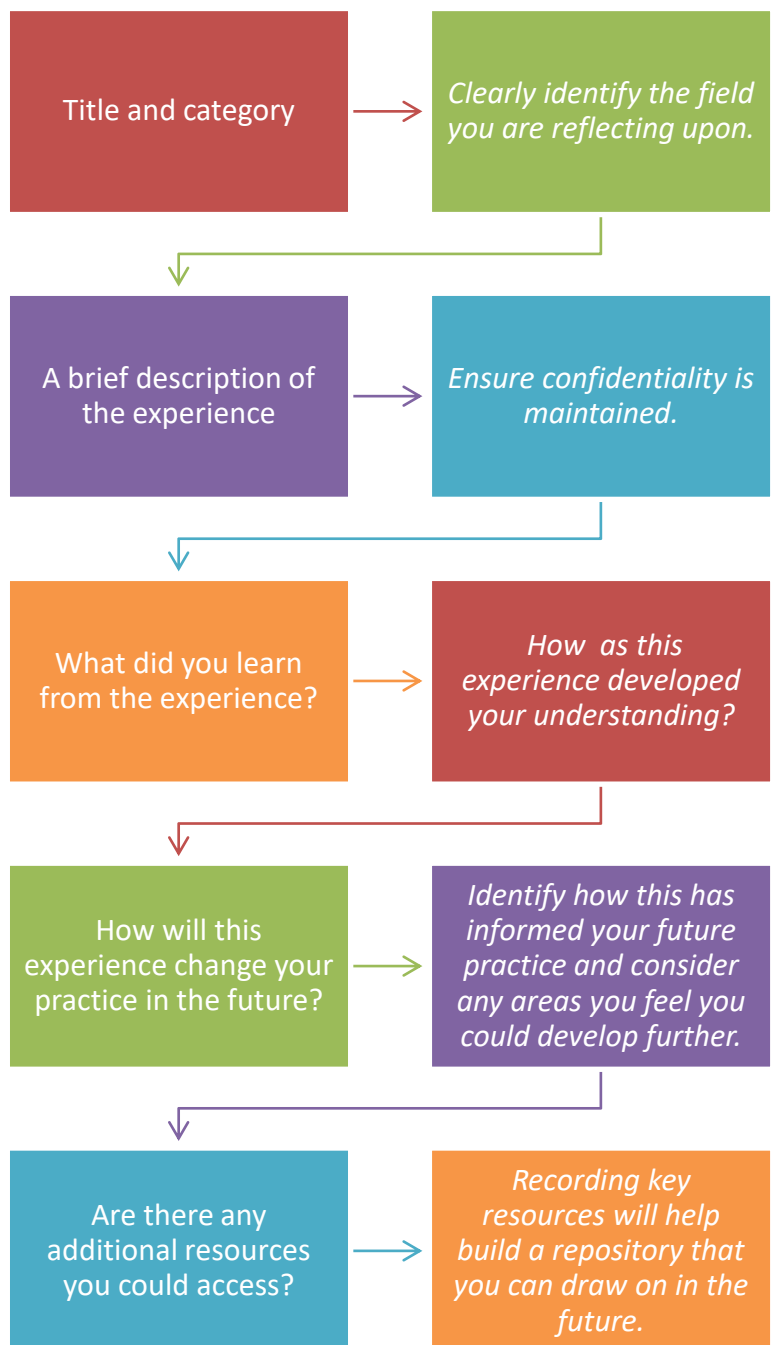
The continuous Tab contains:

- Your clinical logs – for you to record your reflections to support the EU requirements
- Additional comments – Comments can be left by practice supervisors, practice assessors, university practice learning advisers and practice educators. These are in relation to your placement management and assessment.

Your academic assessor will confirm your clinical logs

After each placement your academic assessor will review your portfolio, they will be able to leave feedback regarding your clinical logs. It is best to complete these as you progress, so that there is less for you to worry about prior to submission.

A Framework for Recording your Clinical Log



What sort of practice do I need to observe or participate in?

A frequent question is ‘how do I access these opportunities?’

Your practice placements will enable you to gain experience of all fields of nursing and midwifery relevant to your own practice.

As a registered adult nurse, you will need to be able to:-

- Identify relevant risk assessments
- Contact relevant professionals for further guidance
- Recognise your own limitations and be able to refer to other services
- Support all service users effectively

Examples of possible opportunities

| | |
|---|---|
| Midwifery <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working with a peer or colleague who is pregnant• Gaining experience with a Health Visitor Team• Visiting a mother and baby club | Learning disability <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Caring for someone in your placement area• Gaining experience in a school• Gaining experience with the community learning Disability service• Spending time with a charity service such as SCOPE• Local support groups |
| Mental health <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Caring for people in your placement area• Gaining experience at a Memory café• Local support groups• Gaining experience of the memory assessment unit | Children and young persons <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meeting with child counselling services• Supporting young children visiting relatives• Caring for a child or young person in the course of placements• Gaining experience of nursery play• Meeting with parents groups. |

Clinical Log Example

A brief description of the experience

I had the opportunity to visit a memory café to meet people and their families living with dementia. I spent a lot of the time with a gentleman in his early 60's (Joe) who had been diagnosed with dementia a year ago. He had been a store manager but was no longer able to work.

Both Joe and his wife had experienced anxiety and fear about what the future held. The Memory café had helped them to meet others going through different experiences and they found the support had given them hope. They now live for the day and appreciate the moment. They called it 'our home of memories'.

What did you learn from the experience?

I was very moved by my time in the memory café. I did not realise that younger people could develop dementia. Joe's wife had started noticing changes about 4 years before the diagnosis but put this down to work stress. The key things she noticed was a change in mood and increased irritation. Joe said he had started to write lists, something he had never previously needed to do. The key point was when they were on holiday and Joe became very disorientated and had no recollection of his whereabouts. This led to investigations when they came home.

Joe's wife said that but because they were in their 50's she had thought it was 'just middle age'. Both Joe and his wife have experienced many emotions. Both felt angry that this disease had robbed them of the retirement they had planned. Their youngest son is at university. They feel they have let their children down. They do not want to be a burden to them.

I now realise that often health issues develop over a period of time and when help is sought, the person may have been living with a worry for a long time.

How will this experience change your practice in the future?

I have sought further information about living with dementia. 'The Dementia Guide' (Alzheimer's Society, 2020) helped me to understand the disease more and the things I could do to help people. I have reflected on my experience to date and realised I had been judgemental in assuming dementia was an old person's issue. In placements, I have seen the frustration for the team that it can cause when someone is forgetful, overly anxious or at increased risks of falling. In future placements, I will ask for the views of the family and seek their guidance in providing care. I feel more confident to challenge other professionals as I now know how to refer for support and make suggestions about care. For example, there is an in reach Mental Health team that can help in planning and providing care. Within the Community there is a memory assessment team who can advise and the Admiral Nurse network.

References

The Alzheimers Society, 2020. *The dementia guide: Living well after diagnosis.* www.alzheimers.org.uk.

Are there any additional resources you could access?

Are there additional resources I could access?

Alzheimers Society UK, <https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/>

Dementia friends , <https://www.dementiafriends.org.uk/>

Dementia UK, <https://www.dementiauk.org/>

In Reach Mental Health Teams

Memory Café – Support groups

Memory Assessment service

There is not a section in the template for references and resources. You can add these into the last section.