

PAIN GAIN

Link-up for groundbreaking new course

EDINBURGH University has joined forces with an Australian university to offer a new postgraduate qualification in Pain Management.

The groundbreaking course is the first distance learning course to be offered by the Scottish university and is already attracting a great deal of interest on both sides of the world.

It is being run in association with the world-leading Pain Management Research Institute at the University of Sydney and aims to improve the care of countless patients who live with chronic pain.

Students will complete courses including those covering pain in children, cancer pain, pain in older people and psychological approaches to pain management to obtain a certificate, diploma or MSc degree in Pain Management.

Professor Ian Power, Head of Anaesthesia, Critical Care and Pain Medicine at the University of Edinburgh said: "We have already had about thirty applications for

the course from Scotland and Australia and we are keen to encourage more health care professionals in NHS Lothian to sign up.

"The course is open to anyone who deals with the effects of pain – not just anaesthetists but dentists, nurses, physiotherapists and psychologists.

"Treatment of pain is not just a clinical problem - for really successful pain management there has to be a multidisciplinary approach."

The course, which takes two years, can be undertaken either at home or in the workplace and involves about 12-15 hours of study a week, depending on the candidate's level of experience.

More information can be obtained from <http://www.mvm.ed.ac.uk/painmasters> or by contacting the University of Edinburgh postgraduate office on 0131 242 6373 or by accessing the University of Sydney's Pain Management Research Institute website at www.painmgmt.usyd.edu.au