



# Graduate Certificate in Electrocardiograph (ECG) Interpretation

Code 10447NAT



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**\$2490.00 (Inc GST)**  
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On behalf of The Benchmark Group, I am delighted to introduce you to our Graduate Certificate in Electrocardiograph (ECG) Interpretation.

This self directed program provides direct access to post graduate studies to a broader range of participants regardless of geographic location. The program is fully supported by our Program Manager and our entire team.

It is expected that from registration to completion the Graduate Certificate in ECG Interpretation will require a study commitment of approximately 6 to 9 months to complete.

The course takes you on a journey through understanding components of the ECG waveform, recognising and interpreting cardiac rhythms and interpreting a 12 lead ECG in a way that helps ensure you get the most out of the program. Throughout your study, our Program Manager will provide support and feed back on your work to also ensure that you completely understand the specific areas being studied.

The outcome for participants is to gain the skills and knowledge to accurately interpret an ECG in every day practice and take appropriate action. Having these skills can lead to significant improvements for client outcomes and safety.

The Graduate Certificate in ECG Interpretation is designed to enhance your professional scope of practice, broaden your current work place practice or creating possible opportunities to move into new areas of clinical practice.

If you have any further questions about the Graduate Certificate in ECG Interpretation please do not hesitate to contact us on 1300 855 568.

Kind regards,  
*The Benchmark Group Pty Limited*

Bruce Greaves  
General Manager



[www.benchmarkgroup.com.au](http://www.benchmarkgroup.com.au)

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### ***Industry Recognition***

The Graduate Certificate in ECG Interpretation has been recognised by a number of professional associations who have allocated points for successful completion of this post graduate qualification.



#### ***Royal Australian College of General Practitioners***

This activity has been approved by the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners QI&CPD Program in the 2014 - 16 triennium. 60 Category 1 points - Activity No. 21429

All GP participants who are registered in the rural grants program are entitled to claim 3-day EM grant upon successful completion of this course. Visit the RACGP website for more information on the RACGP Regional grants program.



#### ***Exercise and Sports Science Australia***

The ESSA Professional Development Committee certifies that this Professional Development offering meets the criteria for 15 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Points.

Accreditation No. PDNF060315.



#### ***Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association***

This activity has been endorsed by the Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association (APNA) according to approved quality standards criteria.

Completion of this educational activity entitles eligible participants to claim 600 CPD hours.



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# Graduate Certificate in ECG Interpretation

## **Course Pack**

After registering, you will receive in the post your course pack. The course pack contains the following:

- Course Folder containing 4 Course Modules and 4 Assessment Portfolios
- 1 Textbook – ECG interpretation for Everyone: An On-The-Spot Guide by Fred Kusumoto and Pam Bernath, 2012

## **Pre requisites (Minimum requirement)**

Registered Nurses, Medical Officers, Cardiac Technicians, Exercise Physiologists, Interns, Paramedics and other health professionals with relevant vocational capacity can apply based on recognition of prior learning.

In addition to an existing qualification, the following skills in reading, writing and oral communication are required for entry to this course:

- Reading skills to read and interpret texts of some complexity, such as a textbook
- Writing skills to make notes on patient files
- Oral communication skills to provide information to clients and to ask relevant questions.

## **Assessment**

The assessment for the Graduate Certificate in ECG Interpretation is divided into 4 online assessment activities.

## **Course Delivery**

The Graduate Certificate in ECG Interpretation is delivered as a distance learning module. On registration, students will be provided with a complete set of course materials including Core Unit and Elective Units.

## **Outcome**

On successful completion of this course, students will receive a Nationally Recognised, Graduate Certificate in ECG Interpretation.





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# Graduate Certificate in ECG Interpretation

The Graduate Certificate in Electrocardiograph (ECG) Interpretation is essential learning for health care professionals working in areas where ECG interpretation is required as part of a patient's routine and emergency care.

The course is designed to give the participant a high level of knowledge and skills in ECG interpretation and critical rhythm recognition.

## ***Aims of the Course:***

On completion of this learning package, you will have the required skills and knowledge to:

- Accurately perform and record an ECG Tracing
- Interpret components of the ECG waveform
- Recognise and interpret cardiac rhythm
- Interpret a 12 lead ECG
- Identify and assess acute coronary syndrome
- Identify and assess bundle branch blocks

The course includes 12 Learning Modules.

## ***Module 1: Cardiac Anatomy***

On successful completion of this module you will have the skills and knowledge to:

- Identify the four chambers of the heart
- Identify and describe the valves located in the heart
- Describe normal blood flow through the heart
- Identify the components and sequence of events in the conduction system
- Describe the nervous system that controls the heart
- Identify coronary artery blood supply.

## ***Module 2: Cardiac Physiology and Electrophysiology***

On successful completion of this module you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of myocardial cells in the cardiac conduction system
- Explain the phases of the cardiac action potential
- Identify the seven phases of the cardiac cycle.



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## **Module 3: Components of the ECG Waveform**

On successful completion of this module you will have the skills and knowledge to:

- Recognise the components of the ECG waveform
- Identify variations of the ECG waveform
- Recall normal values for PR interval and QRS complex
- Calculate heart rate.

## **Module 4: Sinus Arrhythmias**

On successful completion of this module you will have the skills and knowledge to:

- Apply the process for systematically interpreting a rhythm strip
- Identify ECG features of normal sinus rhythm
- Identify ECG features of sinus arrhythmias.

## **Module 5: Arrhythmias Originating in the Atrium**

On successful completion of this module you will have the skills and knowledge to:

- Identify the mechanisms involved in arrhythmia formation
- Identify ECG features of atrial arrhythmias.

## **Module 6: Arrhythmias Originating in the Atrioventricular Junction**

On successful completion of this module you will have the skills and knowledge to:

- Identify key ECG features of Junctional rhythms.

## **Module 7: Atrioventricular Blocks**

On successful completion of this module you will have the skills and knowledge to:

- Identify the mechanisms involved in atrioventricular blocks
- Recognise the different atrioventricular blocks.



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## **Module 8: Ventricular Rhythms, Pulseless Electrical Activity (PEA) and Asystole**

On successful completion of this module you will have the skills and knowledge to:

- Identify the mechanisms involved in ventricular arrhythmias
- Recognise the different ventricular rhythms
- Understand a normal ECG may cause no muscular contraction – Pulseless Electrical Activity (PEA)
- Recognise asystole and its similarity to fine VF.

## **Module 9: Introduction to ECG Interpretation**

On successful completion of this module you will have the skills and knowledge to:

- Understand how the 12 lead ECG is formulated
- Recall the leads that represent certain areas of the heart
- Interpret normal and abnormal axis deviation
- Systematically analyse a 12 lead ECG.

## **Module 10: Acute Coronary Syndrome**

On successful completion of this module you will have the skills and knowledge to:

- Recall what acute coronary syndrome (ACS) encompasses
- Understand the pathophysiology of ACS
- Understand the biochemical markers associated with ACS
- Identify ECG changes associated with ACS
- Recognise characteristic ECG changes associated with coronary artery occlusion
- Recognise non ST elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) causes of ST elevation (Pericarditis) and J point elevation (Brugada Syndrome).

## **Module 11: Bundle Branch Blocks**

On successful completion of this module you will have the skills and knowledge to:

- Identify the mechanisms that cause bundle branch blocks
- Recognise right bundle branch block
- Recognise left bundle branch block
- Recognise left anterior and left posterior fascicular block
- Recognise trifascicular block.



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## Module 12: Stress Testing

The exercise stress test (also called stress test, exercise ECG or stress ECG) is used to provide information about how the heart responds to exertion. It usually involves walking on a treadmill or pedalling a stationary bike at increasing levels of difficulty, whilst monitoring the patient's ECG, heart rate and blood pressure.

The exercise stress test has been used for over 60 years to identify myocardial ischaemia. Exercise increases metabolic demand of cardiac tissue. If blood supply to a region of the heart is restricted due to a blockage, this region will become ischaemic and the ECG will reflect this. During the past several decades, exercise testing has been increasingly used to determine cardiovascular risk.

On successful completion of this course participants will receive a Nationally Recognised Graduate Certificate in Electrocardiograph (ECG) Interpretation.

<b>Course Title</b>	<i>Graduate Certificate in ECG Interpretation</i>
<b>Course Code</b>	<i>10447NAT</i>
<b>Course Cost</b>	<i>\$2490.00 per student (10% discount for payment on registration)</i>
<b>Delivery Method</b>	<i>100% Self Directed.</i>
<b>Course Duration</b>	<i>600 Hours of Learning</i>
<b>Assessment</b>	<i>Online assessment + Independent Clinical Practice</i>
<b>CPD Hours</b>	<i>100</i>
<b>Pre Requisites</b>	<i>Registered Nurses, Medical Officers, Cardiac Technicians, Accredited Exercise Physiologists, Accredited Sports Scientists, Accredited Exercise Scientists, Interns, Paramedics and other health professionals with relevant vocational capacity can apply.</i>





# Program Testimonials

*"I found the course very well presented following a well set out logical progression through the topics."*

*Metropolitan Ambulance Paramedic*

*"After 25 years of nursing and multiple ECG courses I always felt I was missing the part of brain necessary to ever interpret an ECG confidently. Now working in Emergency I felt it was my little shameful secret. Oh what relief the Benchmark Group ECG interpretation Course was!! Suddenly I could see what everyone else could see! Prolonged QT's, sinus pauses, wenkebacks and mobitz all jump out at me. It's such a simple systematic approach to break down the ECG into its smaller parts I cant believe it. It's like ECG for dummies (except that book was useless too).*

*I recommend this course as the only course you will ever need to understand ECGs. Of course I have to keep practising every day but its easy now because I understand the fundamentals."*  
*Emergency Nurse*

*"I am a Registered Nurse working independently within a country Hospital Emergency Department. Working only with one other nurse on duty is important to be able to have a high level of assessment skills and to be able to liaise important information to a doctor over the phone.*

*The ECG course enabled me to learn how to interpret ECG's learning what is normal and knowing how to identify an acute coronary syndrome, this in turn assisted me to feel more comfortable in everyday practice. The course is flexible and can complete it in your own time and there is always assistance through email support in which staff reply within a timely manner. I highly recommend the course to anyone wishing to improve their ECG interpretation skills."*  
*Emergency Nurse (Regional Facility)*



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