MALLA REDDY VISHWAVIDYAPEETH
(Deemed to be University)
Hyderabad

School of Nursing Science and Technology

FELLOWSHIP IN
PSYCHIATRIC AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE NURSING
Curriculum 2026

Programme particulars	
Level	Post-registration fellowship (nursing)
Duration	26 weeks (6 months) – 1,000 hours
Structure	Theory 100 h · Simulation laboratory 60 h · Clinical practice 840 h
Eligibility	Registered B.Sc Nursing / M.Sc Nursing in India, or equivalent
Award	Fellowship certificate of Malla Reddy Vishwavidyapeeth

Approved Curriculum by the Board of Studies, Academic Council and Executive Council

Stage	Body	Date of approval / resolution no.
1	Board of Studies Nursing – School of Nursing Sciences & Technology	
2	Academic Council	
3	Executive Council	

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1. Preamble and Need for the Programme

Malla Reddy School of Nursing Science and Technology recognizes the growing need for professionally trained nurses who can provide comprehensive, compassionate and evidence-based care to individuals experiencing mental health problems and psychiatric disorders. Mental health conditions affect individuals across all age groups and can significantly influence their emotional well-being, behavior, relationships, social functioning and quality of life. Registered nurses play a vital role in the early identification of mental health concerns, psychiatric assessment, therapeutic communication, treatment adherence, crisis intervention and rehabilitation. Specialized training is therefore essential to ensure safe, effective and person-centered psychiatric and mental health nursing practice.

The Fellowship in Psychiatric and Mental Health Care Nursing is designed to strengthen the competencies of registered nurses in psychiatric assessment, mental status examination, therapeutic communication, identification of psychiatric disorders, psychopharmacology and the delivery of evidence-based nursing interventions. It enables nurses to recognize common mental health conditions, understand their etiology and clinical manifestations, contribute to treatment planning, monitor responses to treatment and provide appropriate nursing care in collaboration with the multidisciplinary mental health team.

1.1 Need

- The increasing burden of mental health conditions, including schizophrenia, mood disorders, anxiety disorders, substance use disorders and other psychiatric conditions highlights the need for nurses with specialized knowledge and clinical competencies in mental health care.
- Basic nursing programmes provide foundational knowledge of psychiatric nursing; however, structured post-registration training is required to strengthen practical competencies in psychiatric assessment, therapeutic communication, psychopharmacology, crisis intervention and psychosocial rehabilitation.
- Hospitals, psychiatric units, rehabilitation centers and community mental health services require nurses who can identify changes in mental status, assess risk, respond appropriately to psychiatric emergencies, monitor treatment outcomes and support recovery and reintegration into the community.
- Nurses need specialized training to establish therapeutic nurse–patient relationships, provide appropriate emotional support, involve families in care, promote treatment adherence and deliver non-judgmental care that respects individual dignity and rights.
- A structured fellowship helps nurses develop competency in evidence-based interventions, ethical and legal practice, patient safety, suicide prevention, substance use management and the provision of coordinated mental health services.

2. Vision, Mission and Programme Objectives

2.1 Vision

To prepare competent, compassionate and professionally responsible psychiatric and mental health nurses who deliver safe, evidence-based, recovery-oriented and person-centred care and contribute to the promotion of mental health and the improvement of mental health services.

2.2 Mission

- To provide competency-based training in psychiatric assessment, therapeutic communication, psychopharmacology, psychiatric nursing interventions and psychosocial rehabilitation through structured theory, simulation and supervised clinical practice.
- To promote ethical, legal, culturally sensitive and rights-based nursing practice that respects the dignity, autonomy, confidentiality and individual needs of persons experiencing mental health conditions.
- To develop clinical judgment, crisis management, communication, teamwork and leadership skills for providing comprehensive mental health care in inpatient, outpatient, rehabilitation and community settings.
- To strengthen the ability of nurses to educate patients and families, support treatment adherence, prevent relapse and promote recovery, social functioning and community reintegration.

2.3 Programme objectives

After successful completion of the Fellowship in Psychiatric and Mental Health Care Nursing, the fellow will be able to:

- Provide safe and holistic care to individuals with mental health disorders.
- Perform psychiatric assessment and mental status examination.
- Demonstrate effective therapeutic communication skills.
- Identify common psychiatric disorders and their symptoms.
- Administer psychiatric medications safely and monitor side effects.
- Apply appropriate therapeutic techniques and nursing interventions.
- Manage psychiatric emergencies and provide crisis intervention.
- Provide mental health education and family support.
- Apply legal, ethical and professional principles in psychiatric nursing.
- Promote rehabilitation, recovery and community-based mental health care.

3. Programme at a Glance

Item	Details
Name of the programme	Fellowship in Psychiatric and Mental Health Care Nursing
Offered by	School of Nursing Science and Technology, Malla Reddy Vishwavidyapeeth (Deemed to be University)
Duration	26 weeks (6 months), full time
Total hours	Total-1,000 Hrs: Theory-100 Hrs, Simulation laboratory-60 Hrs, Clinical practice-840 Hrs
Credits	33 (at 30 notional hours per credit; 1,000 h ÷ 30 = 33.3, rounded down)
Eligibility	Registered B.Sc Nursing / M.Sc Nursing in India, or equivalent
Mode	Contact classes, simulation, supervised clinical postings in a teaching hospital, logbook
Assessment	MCQ 25 + practical skills (three case scenarios) 60 + logbook 15 = 100 marks; minimum 50% in each component and 50% aggregate
Award	Fellowship certificate by Malla Reddy Vishwavidyapeeth (Deemed to be University)

Item	Details
Medium of instruction	English

4. Eligibility, Selection and Governance

4.1 Eligibility

- Registered B.Sc Nursing or M.Sc Nursing in India, or equivalent qualification.
- Current registration with a State Nursing Council (certificate to be produced at admission).
- Medical fitness certificate and immunization record (hepatitis B at minimum).

4.2 Selection and commencement

The fellowship is established to uphold transparency, fairness and meritocracy in the selection process for the MRV Fellowship Programme. Selection is made by the Fellowship Committee on the basis of academic record, a short interview and document verification. A batch commences once the committee has approved the list of fellows and allotted a guide to each fellow.

4.3 Fellowship Committee

Sl. No.	Role / position	Description / designation
1	Chairperson	The Dean, SNST
2	Subject expert	Dean MRCON, Professor or Associate Professor of SNST
3	Guide / co-guide	Professor, Associate Professor or Assistant Professor from SNST
4	Convener	The Fellowship Coordinator of MRV
5	Ex officio members	The Registrar and the Controller of Examinations, MRV

Functions of the committee: approval of the curriculum and of any additional output or deliverable (written approval is needed beforehand); selection of fellows; allotment of guides; monitoring of attendance, logbooks and clinical postings; conduct of the final assessment; handling of grievances; recommendation of award of the certificate.

4.4 Guides

- Guide / co-guide: Professor, Associate Professor or Assistant Professor from SNST with a postgraduate qualification in nursing and relevant experience in psychiatric and mental health nursing.
- Clinical preceptors: Qualified psychiatric and mental health nursing professionals with relevant clinical experience in psychiatric units, mental health facilities or community mental health services.
- Guide-to-fellow ratio: Not more than 1:1

5. Programme Outcomes

5.1 Programme outcomes (POs)

At the end of the fellowship the fellow demonstrates the following programme outcomes.

PO	Domain	Programme outcome
PO1	Knowledge	Explains the concepts, causes, clinical manifestations and management of common psychiatric disorders.
PO2	Psychiatric Assessment	Performs psychiatric history-taking, mental status examination and risk assessment.
PO3	Therapeutic Nursing Care	Provides appropriate nursing care and applies therapeutic communication techniques.
PO4	Treatment and Rehabilitation	Administers prescribed psychiatric medications safely and participates in therapeutic interventions and rehabilitation.

PO	Domain	Programme outcome
PO5	Safety, Ethics and Legal Practice	Applies patient safety measures, ethical principles, confidentiality and relevant mental health legislation.
PO6	Crisis Management and Community Care	Responds to psychiatric emergencies and promotes recovery, family support and community-based mental health care.

6. Curriculum Framework

6.1 Distribution of hours

Unit	Title	Theory (h)	Simulation lab (h)
I	Introduction to Psychiatric and Mental Health Care	12	6
II	Psychiatric Assessment	14	10
III	Therapeutic Communication	10	8
IV	Psychopathology and Psychiatric Disorders	18	10
V	Psychopharmacology	12	8
VI	Treatment Modalities and Therapies Used in Mental Disorders	12	8
VII	Psychiatric Emergencies and Crisis Intervention	12	6
VIII	Legal and Ethical Issues in Psychiatric Nursing	10	4
Total		**100**	**60**

Component	Hours	Share
Theory (8 units)	100	10%
Simulation laboratory	60	6%
Clinical practice (postings)	840	84%
Total	**1,000**	**100%**

Average weekly load over 26 weeks: about 4 hours of theory, 2 hours of simulation and 32 hours of clinical practice (about 38 hours a week).

6.2 Schedule of the 26 weeks

Weeks	Activity
1–2	Orientation to psychiatric and mental health nursing, introduction to mental health services, therapeutic communication, patient safety and initial clinical orientation.
3–20	Structured clinical postings in psychiatric assessment, inpatient and outpatient mental health services, psychiatric rehabilitation, psychopharmacology, therapeutic interventions and community mental health care. Theory and simulation sessions are scheduled alongside the postings.
21–25	Completion of clinical postings, psychiatric case presentations, crisis intervention scenarios, logbook completion, revision and competency-based practice.
26	Final assessment, practical examination, case presentation, logbook verification and exit examination.

6.3 Teaching–learning methods

- Interactive lectures, educational videos and case-based learning on psychiatric disorders and mental health nursing.
- Simulation laboratory sessions on mental status examination, therapeutic communication, psychiatric emergencies and risk assessment.
- Supervised clinical practice in psychiatric wards, outpatient departments, rehabilitation units and community mental health settings.
- Role play and demonstrations of therapeutic communication, counseling skills, family interactions and crisis intervention.
- Case discussions, psychiatric nursing care plans, seminars, group discussions and case presentations.

- Demonstrations and supervised learning related to psychiatric medication administration, monitoring of adverse effects and patient education.
- Suicide prevention and de-escalation scenarios, with emphasis on patient and staff safety.
- Logbook documentation, reflective learning, guide feedback and competency-based assessment.

7. Detailed Syllabus: Emergency and Trauma Care Nursing

Theory 100 hours · Simulation laboratory 60 hours · Clinical practice 840 hours

For every unit the syllabus gives the learning objectives, content, teaching–learning activities, assessment methods and course outcomes (CO).

Unit I: Introduction to Psychiatric and Mental Health Care

Theory: 12 hours · Simulation Laboratory: 6 hours

Learning objectives

- Understand the concepts, principles and scope of psychiatric and mental health nursing.
- Describe the development of psychiatric services and mental health care in India.
- Differentiate normal and abnormal behavior.

Content

Introduction to psychiatric and mental health care

- Definitions and concepts of mental health, mental illness and psychiatric nursing.
- Historical development of psychiatry and psychiatric nursing.
- Scope, standards and principles of psychiatric and mental health nursing.
- Concepts of normal and abnormal behavior.
- Factors influencing mental health: biological, psychological, social, cultural and environmental factors.

Mental health services in India

- Overview of mental health services and their organization.
- Psychiatric hospitals, mental health units, outpatient services and community mental health services.
- Role of the nurse in mental health promotion, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation.
- Stigma, discrimination and awareness related to mental illness.

Teaching–learning activities

Interactive lectures, educational videos, group discussions, case-based learning and visits or virtual orientation to mental health services.

Assessment methods

MCQs, viva voce, short assignments and logbook evaluation.

Course outcomes (CO)

CO	Course outcome: the fellow will be able to
CO1	Explain the concepts, principles and scope of psychiatric and mental health nursing.
CO2	Describe the history and organization of mental health services in India.
CO3	Differentiate normal and abnormal behavior and identify factors influencing mental health.
CO4	Explain the role of the psychiatric nurse in mental health promotion and rehabilitation.

Unit II: Psychiatric Assessment

Theory: 14 hours · Simulation Laboratory: 10 hours

Learning objectives

- Perform psychiatric history-taking and mental status examination.

- Identify signs and symptoms of common psychiatric disorders.
- Recognize the role of investigations and psychological assessment in psychiatric care.

Content

Psychiatric history and assessment

- Patient identification, presenting complaints and history of the present illness.
- Past psychiatric, medical, family, personal and psychosocial history.
- Substance use history, developmental history and social assessment.
- Physical and neurological examination relevant to psychiatric care.

Mental status examination (MSE)

- Appearance, behaviour, psychomotor activity and attitude.
- Speech, mood, affect and thought processes.
- Thought content, perception, cognition, insight and judgement.
- Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE) and basic cognitive screening.
- Suicide risk, self-harm, aggression, vulnerability and safeguarding assessment.

Investigations and psychological assessment

- Relevant blood investigations and metabolic assessment.
- Electroencephalography (EEG), computed tomography (CT) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI): indications and nursing considerations.
- Overview of psychological tests and standardized screening tools.
- Assessment findings, documentation and reporting of abnormalities.

Teaching–learning activities

Demonstrations, simulated patient interviews, supervised psychiatric history-taking, MSE practice, case discussions and OSCE stations.

Assessment methods

OSCE, case presentation, written assessment, viva voce and logbook evaluation.

Course outcomes (CO)

CO	Course outcome: the fellow will be able to
CO1	Collect a comprehensive psychiatric history.
CO2	Perform and document a mental status examination under appropriate supervision.
CO3	Identify significant psychiatric symptoms and potential risks to the patient or others.
CO4	Explain relevant investigations and psychological assessment methods used in psychiatric care.

Unit III: Therapeutic Communication

Theory: 10 hours · Simulation Laboratory: 8 hours

Learning objectives

- Demonstrate effective therapeutic communication techniques.
- Establish and maintain a therapeutic nurse–patient relationship.
- Identify barriers and manage difficulties in therapeutic interactions.

Content

Therapeutic communication

- Definition, purpose, principles and characteristics of therapeutic communication.
- Verbal and non-verbal communication.
- Techniques: active listening, clarification, reflection, focusing, exploring, silence, summarizing and offering appropriate support.
- Communication barriers and techniques to overcome them.

- Communication with patients experiencing anxiety, depression, psychosis, cognitive impairment or communication difficulties.

Therapeutic nurse–patient relationship

- Phases of the therapeutic relationship: pre-interaction, orientation, working and termination.
- Establishing trust, empathy, respect and professional boundaries.
- Patient contract, mutual goals and confidentiality.
- Interpersonal relationship concepts and Johari Window.
- Therapeutic impasse, resistance, transference and counter transference: recognition and appropriate management.
- Documentation and communication within the multidisciplinary team.

Teaching–learning activities

Role play, simulated nurse–patient interviews, communication exercises, group discussion, reflective practice and peer feedback.

Assessment methods

Role-play evaluation, OSCE, viva voce and reflective logbook review

Course outcomes (CO)

CO	Course outcome: the fellow will be able to
CO1	Demonstrate appropriate therapeutic communication techniques.
CO2	Establish a therapeutic nurse–patient relationship with professional boundaries.
CO3	Identify communication barriers and select appropriate strategies to overcome them.
CO4	Recognize and respond appropriately to difficulties in therapeutic relationships.

Unit IV: Psychopathology and Psychiatric Disorders

Theory: 18 hours · Simulation Laboratory: 10 hours

Learning objectives

- Identify the signs and symptoms of common psychiatric disorders.
- Understand the etiology, clinical manifestations and management of psychiatric conditions.
- Develop appropriate nursing care plans for patients with psychiatric disorders.

Content

Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders

- Definition, etiology, risk factors and clinical manifestations.
- Positive, negative and cognitive symptoms.
- Assessment, treatment approaches, nursing management and relapse prevention.

Mood disorders

- Depression, bipolar disorder and related mood disturbances.
- Clinical manifestations, suicide risk, assessment and nursing interventions.
- Monitoring treatment response and supporting recovery.

Anxiety and related disorders

- Anxiety disorders, panic attacks, phobias, obsessive-compulsive disorder and trauma-related disorders.
- Stress responses, assessment and therapeutic nursing interventions.

Personality disorders

- Concepts, classification and common clinical features.
- Therapeutic approaches, communication and management of challenging behaviours.

Substance use disorders

- Alcohol, Opioids and other substance use disorders.
- Intoxication, withdrawal, dependence and associated complications.
- Screening, nursing management, relapse prevention and rehabilitation.

Other important psychiatric conditions

- Somatic symptom disorders, eating disorders, neurocognitive disorders and common psychiatric conditions across the lifespan.
- Psychiatric manifestations associated with medical conditions.
- Stigma reduction, recovery-oriented care and family support.

Teaching–learning activities

Interactive lectures, case discussions, clinical demonstrations, psychiatric case presentations, simulated patient interviews and preparation of nursing care plans.

Assessment methods

MCQs, written examination, case presentation, nursing care plan evaluation and viva voce.

Course outcomes (CO)

CO	Course outcome: the fellow will be able to
CO1	Explain the causes, clinical manifestations and management of common psychiatric disorders.
CO2	Identify the signs and symptoms of psychotic, mood and anxiety disorders.
CO3	Describe the assessment and nursing management of personality and substance use disorders.
CO4	Develop individualized nursing care plans for patients with psychiatric disorders.

Unit V: Psychopharmacology

Theory: 12 hours · Simulation Laboratory: 8 hours

Learning objectives

- Identify commonly prescribed psychiatric medications and their uses.
- Administer prescribed psychiatric medications safely.
- Recognise adverse effects and monitor treatment responses.

Content

Principles of psychopharmacology

- Principles of medication administration and medication safety.
- Indications, therapeutic effects, contraindications and precautions.
- Medication reconciliation, adherence and patient education.

Major groups of psychiatric medications

- Antipsychotics: typical and atypical agents.
- Antidepressants: major classes and clinical uses.
- Mood stabilizers.
- Anxiolytics and sedative-hypnotic medications.
- Medications used in substance use disorders.

Monitoring and management of adverse effects

- Extrapyramidal symptoms, tardive dyskinesia and neuroleptic malignant syndrome.
- Sedation, metabolic effects and cardiovascular considerations.
- Serotonin syndrome and other serious adverse drug reactions.
- Monitoring relevant laboratory investigations and therapeutic drug levels where indicated.
- Recognition, documentation and reporting of adverse reactions.

Patient and family education

- Medication adherence and follow-up.
- Recognition of adverse effects and warning signs.

- Safe storage and avoidance of unsupervised medication changes.

Teaching–learning activities

Lectures, drug-chart preparation, medication-safety simulations, case-based discussions and supervised medication administration.

Assessment methods

MCQs, drug-chart evaluation, medication-administration OSCE, case discussion and viva voce.

Course outcomes (CO)

CO	Course outcome: the fellow will be able to
CO1	Identify commonly used psychiatric medications and their indications.
CO2	Demonstrate safe practices in prescribed psychiatric medication administration.
CO3	Recognize adverse effects and report serious medication-related complications promptly.
CO4	Educate patients and families regarding medication adherence, precautions and follow-up.

Unit VI: Treatment Modalities and Therapies Used in Mental Disorders

Theory: 12 hours · Simulation Laboratory: 8 hours

Learning objectives

- Describe the major treatment modalities used in psychiatric care.
- Participate in appropriate therapeutic and psychosocial interventions.
- Support rehabilitation and recovery according to individual patient needs.

Content

Physical and biological therapies

- Electroconvulsive therapy (ECT): indications, preparation, nursing responsibilities and post-procedure monitoring.
- Principles of other prescribed biological treatments used in psychiatric practice.
- Patient safety, consent and monitoring during treatment.

Psychological therapies

- Overview of psychotherapy and supportive therapy.
- Cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT): basic principles and nursing applications within professional competence.
- Behaviour therapy and reinforcement techniques.
- Counselling principles and supportive interventions.

Psychosocial therapies

- Individual and group therapy: principles and nursing roles.
- Family therapy and family education.
- Therapeutic community and milieu therapy.
- Occupational, recreational, music, art and activity-based therapies.
- Social skills training, rehabilitation and relapse prevention.

Complementary and supportive approaches

- Relaxation techniques, breathing exercises, yoga and meditation where appropriate.
- Cultural sensitivity, patient preference and safety considerations.
- Special considerations for children, older adults, pregnant and postpartum patients, and people with disabilities or coexisting medical conditions.

Teaching–learning activities

Demonstrations, role play, simulation, group activities, therapeutic activity planning, case discussions and supervised participation in rehabilitation programmes.

Assessment methods

Practical examination, OSCE, case presentation, activity-plan evaluation and viva voce.

Course outcomes (CO)

CO	Course outcome: the fellow will be able to
CO1	Describe the major biological, psychological and psychosocial treatment modalities used in psychiatric care.
CO2	Explain the nursing responsibilities associated with ECT and other prescribed treatments.
CO3	Participate in appropriate therapeutic and rehabilitation activities under supervision.
CO4	Support individualized recovery plans and educate families regarding psychosocial care.

Unit VII: Psychiatric Emergencies and Crisis Intervention

Theory: 12 hours · Simulation Laboratory: 6 hours

Learning objectives

- Recognize and respond to common psychiatric emergencies.
- Apply crisis intervention and de-escalation techniques.
- Assess suicide risk and maintain patient and staff safety.

Content

Psychiatric emergencies

- Suicide risk, suicidal behaviour and self-harm.
- Aggression, violence and severe behavioural disturbances.
- Acute psychosis, severe agitation and panic.
- Delirium, stupor and altered mental status.
- Alcohol and substance intoxication and withdrawal, including delirium tremens.
- Recognition of medical emergencies that may present with psychiatric symptoms.

Crisis intervention

- Concepts, types and stages of crisis.
- Principles and steps of crisis intervention.
- Crisis assessment, prioritization and immediate nursing interventions.
- Therapeutic communication, verbal de-escalation and environmental safety.
- Stress management, coping enhancement and basic counselling techniques within nursing competence.
- Referral, multidisciplinary collaboration and continuity of care.

Suicide prevention and safety

- Identification of risk and protective factors.
- Suicide risk assessment and observation according to institutional policy.
- Environmental safety and reduction of access to potential means of harm.
- Emergency escalation, documentation and family support.
- Post-crisis follow-up, safety planning and referral.

Disaster and community crisis management

- Psychological first aid and emotional support.
- Mental health response during disasters and mass-casualty events.
- Community referral pathways and support services.

Teaching–learning activities

Emergency simulations, role play, case scenarios, de-escalation demonstrations, suicide-risk assessment exercises and supervised clinical exposure.

Assessment methods

OSCE, scenario-based practical examination, case presentation, written assessment and viva voce.

Course outcomes (CO)

CO	Course outcome: the fellow will be able to
CO1	Recognize common psychiatric emergencies and identify immediate care priorities.
CO2	Assess suicide risk and implement appropriate safety measures and escalation procedures.
CO3	Demonstrate crisis intervention and de-escalation techniques within professional competence.
CO4	Provide psychological support and facilitate referral and continuity of care following a crisis.

Unit VIII: Legal and Ethical Issues in Psychiatric Nursing

Theory: 10 hours · Simulation Laboratory: 4 hours

Learning objectives

- Understand the legal and ethical responsibilities of psychiatric nurses.
- Protect the rights, dignity and confidentiality of persons with mental illness.
- Apply relevant legislation and professional standards in psychiatric nursing practice.

Content

Mental health legislation in India

- Overview of the development of mental health legislation in India.
- Mental Healthcare Act, 2017: key provisions and implications for nursing practice.
- Rights of persons with mental illness, access to mental healthcare and community living.
- Informed consent, advance directives, nominated representatives and supported decision-making.
- Admission, treatment, discharge and safeguards under applicable law.
- Rights-based care and protection against discrimination.

Other relevant legislation

- Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, and safeguarding responsibilities.
- Applicable provisions relating to narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.
- Relevant legal requirements concerning confidentiality, reporting, documentation and patient protection.
- Forensic psychiatry and the role of psychiatric nurses in forensic settings.

Ethical and professional issues

- Autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, justice and respect for dignity.
- Confidentiality, privacy and appropriate disclosure of information.
- Consent and decision-making capacity.
- Professional boundaries, stigma, discrimination and patient advocacy.
- Ethical considerations in restrictive interventions, observation and management of high-risk patients.
- Accurate documentation, incident reporting and professional accountability.

Teaching–learning activities

Lectures, seminars, legal case discussions, ethical dilemma analysis, role play and simulated consent and documentation exercises.

Assessment methods

Assignments, seminar presentation, case-based written examination, viva voce and logbook evaluation.

Course outcomes (CO)

CO	Course outcome: the fellow will be able to

CO	Course outcome: the fellow will be able to
CO1	Explain the major provisions of the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017, and other relevant legislation.
CO2	Protect the rights, dignity, privacy and confidentiality of persons receiving mental healthcare.
CO3	Apply ethical principles and appropriate consent procedures in psychiatric nursing practice.
CO4	Demonstrate legal and professional accountability in documentation, safeguarding and psychiatric care.

8. Clinical Practice: Postings (840 hours)

Clinical area	Weeks	Hours
I. Introduction to Psychiatric and Mental Health Care	12	6
II. Psychiatric Assessment	14	10
III. Therapeutic Communication	10	8
IV. Psychopathology and Psychiatric Disorders	18	10
V. Psychopharmacology	12	8
VI. Treatment Modalities and Therapies	12	8
VII. Psychiatric Emergencies and Crisis Intervention	12	6
VIII. Legal and Ethical Issues	10	4

Postings are arranged according to the clinical roster and availability of psychiatric and mental health care facilities. The psychiatric assessment and inpatient psychiatric postings commence in Week 1, followed by specialized postings in accordance with the teaching of the relevant units. Postings cover clinical practice hours only; theory and simulation laboratory hours are additional and form part of the total 1,000-hour programme. Each posting concludes with a guide-verified competency assessment and sign-off in the clinical logbook.

8.1 Expected learning in each posting

Posting	Focus
Inpatient Psychiatric Unit	Psychiatric assessment, mental status examination, nursing care plans, therapeutic communication, patient safety and daily progress documentation
Psychiatric Outpatient Department	Psychiatric history-taking, symptom identification, follow-up assessment, medication adherence and patient education
Psychiatric Emergency and Crisis Intervention Unit	Suicide risk assessment, management of agitation, de-escalation, crisis intervention, observation and emergency referral
Psychopharmacology and Treatment Unit	Safe administration of prescribed psychiatric medications, monitoring therapeutic responses, identifying adverse effects and medication education
Psychological and Psychosocial Therapy Unit	Participation in individual and group activities, supportive interventions, family education, occupational therapy and recreational therapy
Psychiatric Rehabilitation Unit	Functional assessment, social skills training, relapse prevention, recovery planning and community reintegration
Child and Geriatric Mental Health Services	Age-appropriate mental health assessment, behavioural concerns, cognitive screening, safeguarding and family support
Community Mental Health Services	Community assessment, mental health education, home visits, follow-up, referral, stigma reduction and rehabilitation
ECT and Specialised Treatment Services	Pre-procedure assessment, preparation, consent verification, monitoring during and after ECT, and documentation under supervision
Substance Use Treatment Services	Substance use assessment, monitoring of intoxication and withdrawal, relapse prevention, counselling support and rehabilitation

9. Essential Emergency and Trauma Care Skills and Logbook

The fellow shall maintain a clinical logbook in which every procedure, assessment and therapeutic activity is recorded, signed by the clinical preceptor and verified by the assigned guide. The minimum numbers below are proposed competency requirements for the 840 clinical hours.

Activities marked Sim may be completed using a standardized patient, role play or simulation when an appropriate clinical opportunity is unavailable.

9.1 Procedures observed (O)

No.	Procedure	Min.
1	Psychiatric history-taking and assessment	5
2	Mental status examination	5
3	Psychological assessment and standardized screening tools	3
4	Psychiatric case conference or multidisciplinary review	3
5	Electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) procedure	2
6	Individual psychotherapy or supportive therapy session	3
7	Group therapy or therapeutic community session	3
8	Family therapy or family psycho education session	3
9	Occupational, recreational, art or music therapy session	3
10	Substance use assessment and withdrawal management	3

9.2 Procedures assisted (A)

No.	Procedure	Min.	Sim
1	Psychiatric history-taking	5	Sim
2	Mental status examination	5	Sim
3	Suicide and self-harm risk assessment	5	Sim
4	Psychiatric nursing care plan preparation	5	Sim
5	Therapeutic communication interview	5	Sim
6	Admission assessment and documentation	3	Sim
7	Medication administration and monitoring under supervision	10	Sim
8	Monitoring and documentation of medication side effects	5	Sim
9	Patient and family psycho education	5	Sim
10	Group therapy or structured therapeutic activity	3	Sim
11	De-escalation and management of agitation	3	Sim
12	Crisis intervention and referral	3	Sim
13	Substance use and withdrawal assessment	3	Sim
14	ECT preparation and post-procedure monitoring	2	Sim
15	Discharge planning and relapse prevention education	5	Sim
16	Community mental health assessment or home visit	3	Sim

9.3 Procedures performed (P)

No.	Procedure	Min.	Sim
1	Psychiatric history-taking	10	Sim
2	Mental status examination	10	Sim
3	Assessment of mood, affect, thought and perception	10	Sim
4	Cognitive screening using an appropriate tool	5	Sim
5	Psychiatric nursing assessment and care plan	10	Sim
6	Therapeutic communication interview	10	Sim
7	Daily psychiatric observation and progress documentation	10	Sim
8	Suicide and self-harm risk screening under supervision	5	Sim
9	Assessment of sleep, nutrition, personal hygiene and daily living activities	10	Sim
10	Administration of prescribed psychiatric medications under authorised supervision	10	Sim
11	Monitoring and recording of therapeutic effects and adverse reactions	10	Sim
12	Patient education on medication adherence and follow-up	5	Sim
13	Family psycho education and supportive communication	5	Sim

No.	Procedure	Min.	Sim
14	Conducting or assisting a structured therapeutic activity	5	Sim
15	De-escalation communication in a simulated or supervised setting	5	Sim
16	Preparation of a crisis intervention and safety plan	3	Sim
17	Monitoring a patient experiencing substance withdrawal under supervision	3	Sim
18	Preparation of a discharge and relapse prevention plan	5	Sim
19	Community mental health education activity	3	Sim
20	Documentation of a psychiatric case study and nursing management	5	Sim

9.4 Logbook

- Each entry shall include the date, clinical area, activity performed, level of participation (observed, assisted or performed), patient or case identifier according to institutional confidentiality policy, competency achieved and preceptor's signature.
- The assigned guide shall review the logbook at regular intervals and verify completion of clinical competencies.
- Fellows shall prepare psychiatric nursing care plans and case studies covering different mental health conditions.
- All medication-related procedures and high-risk interventions must be performed only under appropriate supervision and within the fellow's authorised scope of practice.
- Patient confidentiality, informed consent, dignity and safety must be maintained during all clinical and educational activities.
- Simulation may supplement clinical exposure where opportunities are limited, but it shall not replace required supervised clinical experience where actual practice is essential.

10. Scheme of Assessment

10.1 Final assessment and exit examination

The examination is conducted by the School of Nursing Science and Technology, Malla Reddy Vishwavidyapeeth. The final assessment by the assigned guides has three components.

Component	Details	Marks	Minimum (50%)
I. Multiple choice questions	Written paper; 1 mark per question; blueprint in 10.3	25	12.5
II. Practical skills assessment	Three case scenarios with discussion; 20 marks each	60	30
III. Logbook maintenance	Completeness and regularity; accuracy of entries; guide verification	15	7.5
Total		**100**	**50**

10.2 Criteria to pass

- Minimum 50% in each of the three components and minimum 50% aggregate (50 of 100).
- In terms of the earlier wording: 50% in theory (MCQ) and 50% in practical separately, and 50% in internal assessment. The logbook, which records the continuous assessment by guides and preceptors, is the internal assessment component.
- Minimum 80% attendance in theory, simulation and clinical postings; missed postings must be completed before the final assessment.
- A fellow who fails a component repeats only that component, at the next scheduled assessment within 6 months, once.
- Any additional output or deliverable (for example a case study, audit or teaching session) is decided with the guide and needs prior written approval of the Fellowship Committee.

10.3 MCQ blueprint (25 marks)

Unit	Title	Theory hours	MCQs
I	Introduction to Psychiatric and Mental Health Care	12	3
II	Psychiatric Assessment	14	4
III	Therapeutic Communication	10	2
IV	Psychopathology and Psychiatric Disorders	18	5
V	Psychopharmacology	12	3
VI	Treatment Modalities and Therapies Used in Mental Disorders	12	3
VII	Psychiatric Emergencies and Crisis Intervention	12	3
VIII	Legal and Ethical Issues in Psychiatric Nursing	10	2
Total		**100**	**25**

10.4 Practical skills assessment (60 marks)

Each fellow is assessed on three case scenarios in a simulated or clinical setting, with discussion. The cases are drawn so that the three together cover trauma or shock, a cardiac or respiratory emergency, and burns, obstetric or other emergencies. Each case carries 20 marks.

Criterion	Marks
Rapid assessment and triage (primary survey, vital signs, history)	5
Prioritization and nursing care plan	4
Technical skill in the intervention (airway, CPR, IV, monitoring, wound, drug and dose)	6
Safety, infection control and communication / handover	3
Discussion (rationale, complications, evidence)	2
Total per case	**20**

10.5 Logbook assessment (15 marks)

Criterion	Marks
Completeness and regularity	5
Accuracy of entries	5
Guide verification	5
Total	**15**

10.6 Formative assessment

Unit-wise MCQ tests, equipment and skill checklists, case presentations and viva (the assessment methods listed under each unit) are used as formative assessment and feedback during the fellowship; they do not carry marks in the final result. The guide records progress at the end of each posting.

10.7 Award of the certificate

The Fellowship in Psychiatric and Mental Health Care Nursing certificate is awarded by Malla Reddy Vishwavidyapeeth (Deemed to be University) to a fellow who satisfies the criteria in 10.2, on the recommendation of the Fellowship Committee and under the signature of the Controller of Examinations and the Dean.

11. Infrastructure, Faculty and Quality Assurance

11.1 Clinical facilities

- Inpatient psychiatric wards and psychiatric outpatient departments.
- Psychiatric emergency and crisis intervention services.
- Substance use treatment and rehabilitation facilities.
- Child and geriatric mental health services.
- ECT and other specialized treatment facilities, where available.

- Community mental health services and rehabilitation centres.
- Multidisciplinary mental health professionals for supervised clinical training.

11.2 Simulation laboratory

- Psychiatric assessment and mental status examination formats.
- Therapeutic communication and counselling simulation facilities.
- Role-play facilities for crisis intervention and de-escalation.
- Suicide risk assessment and psychiatric emergency scenarios.
- Mock medication charts and adverse drug reaction reporting forms.
- Audio-visual equipment and case-based learning resources.

11.3 Classroom and learning resources

- Smart classroom with audio-visual facilities.
- Library with psychiatric nursing textbooks and journals.
- Digital learning resources and online clinical guidelines.
- Learning Management System (LMS) for notes, videos and logbooks.
- Standardized psychiatric assessment forms and nursing care plan formats.

11.4 Quality assurance

- Feedback from fellows on theory sessions and clinical postings.
- Periodic assessment of clinical competencies and logbooks.
- Mid-course and final feedback from guides and clinical preceptors.
- Annual curriculum review by the Fellowship Committee.
- Grievance redressal through the Fellowship Coordinator and Dean, SNST.
- Maintenance of patient confidentiality, informed consent and ethical practice.
- Supervised clinical practice within the scope of a registered nurse.

12. Suggested References

- Townsend and Morgan. Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing.
- Varcarolis. Foundations of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing.
- Stuart. Principles and Practice of Psychiatric Nursing.
- Videbeck. Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing.
- American Psychiatric Association. Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5-TR).
- World Health Organization. ICD-11: International Classification of Diseases.
- World Health Organization. mhGAP Intervention Guide.
- Government of India. Mental Healthcare Act, 2017.
- Government of India. Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.
- Government of India. Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012.
- Current national guidelines on suicide prevention, substance use treatment and mental health rehabilitation.

Annexure A: Final Assessment Sheet – MRV Fellowship

A. Fellow details

Name of fellow	
Fellowship ID	
Institution / department	
Batch / year	

Component I: Multiple choice questions (25 marks)

Number of questions: _____ Marks obtained: _____ / 25 Result: ☐Pass ☐Fail (minimum 50% required)

Component II: Practical skills assessment (60 marks)

Case	Maximum marks	Marks obtained	Examiner signature
Case 1	20		
Case 2	20		
Case 3	20		
Total	**60**		

Result: ☐Pass ☐Fail (minimum 50% required)

Component III: Logbook maintenance (15 marks)

Criteria: completeness and regularity; accuracy of entries; guide verification. Marks obtained: _____ / 15 Result: ☐Pass ☐Fail (minimum 50% required)

Overall assessment summary

Component	Maximum marks	Marks obtained	Pass / fail
MCQs	25		
Practical skills	60		
Logbook	15		
Total	**100**		

Final result: ☐Pass ☐Fail (minimum 50% aggregate required)

Additional outputs (if approved by the Fellowship Committee):

_____

Certification

We certify that the above final assessment and exit examination have been conducted strictly in accordance with the approved MRV Fellowship guidelines.

Date: _____

1. Name of guide / examiner	
Signature	
2. Name of guide / examiner	
Signature	

Annexure B: Logbook Formats

B.1 Procedure log

Date	Patient ID	Procedure	Level (O/A/P)	Clinical / Sim	Outcome and reflection	Preceptor signature

B.2 Posting summary

Posting	Dates	Hours completed	Competencies signed off	Guide signature
Inpatient Psychiatric Unit				
Psychiatric Outpatient Department				
Psychiatric Emergency and Crisis Intervention Unit				
Psychopharmacology and Treatment Unit				
Psychological and Psychosocial Therapy Unit				
Psychiatric Rehabilitation Unit				
Child and Geriatric Mental Health Services				
Community Mental Health Services				
ECT and Specialized Treatment Services				
Substance Use Treatment Services				

B.3 Case study / presentation log

No.	Date	Diagnosis / condition	Area	Guide remarks and signature

Annexure C: Certificate of Completion (format)

MALLA REDDY VISHWAVIDYAPEETH

(Deemed to be University)

This is to certify that

_____

Fellowship ID _____ has successfully completed the 26-week

FELLOWSHIP IN PSYCHIATRIC AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE NURSING

at the School of Nursing Science and Technology, and has passed the final assessment and exit examination held in _____ with a total of _____ / 100 marks.

Date of issue: _____	Place: Hyderabad
Controller of Examinations	Dean, School of Nursing Science and Technology