



## Your Year as a CREIGHTON MODEL FertilityCare PRACTITIONER INTERN

Your year in the CREIGHTON MODEL FertilityCare™ PRACTITIONER Program, a Health Occupation Certificate Program of St. Joseph School of Nursing, Nashua, NH, is accredited by The American Academy of FertilityCare Professionals and is a unique allied health professional experience.

**Your preparation begins at the time of your acceptance into the program.**

### COURSE CURRICULUM

The one-year CREIGHTON MODEL FertilityCare PRACTITIONER Education program was developed according to basic education principles utilized in allied health courses. The program consists of:

- **Education Phase I**
- **Supervised Practicum I**
- **Education Phase II**
- **Supervised Practicum II**
- **On Site Visit** scheduled during Supervised Practicum II
- **National Standardized Final Exam**

#### **EDUCATION PHASE I**

This eight day total emersion immersion educational experience prepares the FertilityCare Practitioner Intern to teach the CREIGHTON MODEL FertilityCare System. This Education Phase is divided into two parts.

**Part I** consists of history of natural methods of birth regulation, anatomy and physiology, the hormones of the menstrual cycle, breastfeeding, menopause, psychodynamics of contraception and the CREIGHTON MODEL FertilityCare System, human sexuality, the beginnings of

human life and the effectiveness of natural and artificial methods of family planning. There is an assessment at the end of Part I. **Part II** consists of training the Intern to teach the **FertilityCare** System according to the standardized curriculum and includes Basic Chart Reading and Correcting, how to conduct the standardized Introductory Session and Follow-Up sessions, documentation, and the Supervised Practicum I Responsibilities. There is an assessment at the end of this Education Phase.

### **SUPERVISED PRACTICUM I**

This Practicum begins with the successful completion of Education Phase I and ends with Education Phase II. During this Practicum the Intern returns to their home area and begins teaching the **FertilityCare** System. Every Practitioner Intern will be assigned a Faculty Supervisor who they will work closely with during their Practicum. Your faculty supervisor will be a Certified **FertilityCare** Educator who is a Certified **FertilityCare** Practitioner who has at least two additional years of teaching experience and has completed a **FertilityCare** Educator Program. The Supervisor provides the supervision that a Practitioner Intern requires. All books, charts, slides, and teaching materials needed to teach will be provided. Each Intern will teach a minimum of 6 client couples during this Practicum. There are also other written and recorded assignments, and scheduled telephone calls with their Supervisor.

The student will be required to establish a teaching site and recruit clients if they are not affiliated with an already established FertilityCare Center. Information and assistance on how to do this will be provided as part of the training experience.

### **EDUCATION PHASE II**

After successful completion of Supervised Practicum I the Intern is given approval to attend Education Phase II. This is another total immersion educational experience, 6 days long. During this time Advanced Case Management in infertility, continuous mucus discharge, unusual bleeding, and NaProTECHNOLOGY is taught. How to conduct Pregnancy Evaluations are also taught along with management of Advanced Behavioral Issues, communication, marketing, and advanced business aspects of managing a **FertilityCare** Center. There is an Oral Exam at the end of Education Phase II.

### **SUPERVISED PRACTICUM II**

Supervised Practicum II begins with the successful completion of Education Phase II and ends with the Final Exam. During this time the Intern will teach an additional 12 client couples, submit assignments, have monthly phone calls with their Supervisor and prepare for an On Site Visit from their Supervisor.

### **ON SITE VISIT**

The On Site Visit is conducted after the Intern has taught a minimum of 12 client couples. At this time their Faculty Supervisor will go to the Intern's home location and observe their teaching, review their files, and conduct a Comprehensive Case Review of all their clients.

## **INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZED FINAL EXAM**

When all the requirements are complete the Intern will be given approval to take an International Standardized Final Exam. This is proctored in their home location and is offered four times a year.

## **CREIGHTON MODEL FertilityCare™ PRACTITIONER CERTIFICATE**

When all assignments, responsibilities, and final exam are completed the Practitioner Intern is awarded a Certificate from St. Joseph School of Nursing as a **FertilityCare PRACTITIONER**. At this time you are eligible to apply for affiliation with **FertilityCare Center of America, FCCA** and establish your own **FertilityCare Center**.

## **CREIGHTON MODEL FertilityCare™ PRACTITIONER CERTIFICATION**

Because the **FertilityCare™ PRACTITIONER** Program of St. Joseph School Nursing is accredited by the American Academy of **FertilityCare Professionals**, graduates can apply for **Certification** to the Academy after completing the program. Information on this process will be covered during the Education Phases.

## **ADVANCE PREPARATIONS**

To complete this program you will be required to teach 18 client couples the **FertilityCare System**, you will need a place to do this. Although the program is standardized there is great flexibility in where the services can be provided. Students have used space in churches, professional offices, physician practices, libraries, schools, and in their own homes. You should be considering which environment would work best for you. The logistics of this will be discussed at EP I.

Your new clients will enter the program at the time of an Introductory Session. The Creighton Model Introductory Session is a standardized slide presentation (also available on power point), and is both an informational session as well the first step to learning the System. You will learn how to deliver this Session at EPI. At the end of the Session the client couple has enough information to decide if they want to continue and learn the System. Attending the Introductory Session is not a commitment to learning the System. If they decide to learn the system they are given a book and chart and everything they need to begin observing and charting their signs of fertility. They are also scheduled for their first Follow-Up Session at this time. You will learn how to conduct these individual teaching sessions at EPI.

You should schedule your first Introductory Sessions for when you return from EPI. You can begin publicity for these sessions prior to entering Education Phase I. Advance preparation will make your Supervised Practicum I run much more smoothly. We recommend that you attempt to enter at least two new clients monthly to reach a total of six prior to EPII. (More clients can be added if you wish but a **minimum** of six (6) new clients is required),

In addition to the Introductory Sessions, you will be conducting Follow-Up teaching sessions with each of your clients. These teaching sessions are conducted at 2, 4, 6, 8 and 12 weeks and also at 6, 9 and 12 months after the initial Introductory Session. The Follow-Up teaching sessions are done on an individual basis with each couple. You can anticipate that each Follow-Up will last one hour, and that the preparation time and concluding time for a Follow-Up will involve an additional one-hour of your time.

## COURSE TIME, FACILITY AND EQUIPMENT NEEDS

You can anticipate a practical time schedule that includes the time required for your studying, Introductory Sessions, Follow-Ups, preparation and concluding time, office work, program development and outreach, and the assignments that will be provided. You can expect that you will be involved for a minimum of 8 and a maximum of 20 hours per week during this supervised Practica. You will be closer to the minimum amount of time if you come from an established program where client development will not be so difficult. You anticipate the use of the maximum amount of time if you need to do your own program development and outreach.

In order to conduct the Introductory Sessions, you will need a slide projector, **or** a computer and LCD projector, and screen. Private Introductory Sessions can also be scheduled with just one couple. If you plan to do group Introductory Sessions you will need a room large enough to hold three to six couples and printed materials which will be authorized to order after you have completed requirements to begin your first Supervised Practicum. The Follow-Up Sessions are private, confidential and can be held in a smaller room with privacy, a desk or table, and a few chairs. No AV equipment is necessary for Follow-Up sessions. You will be provided all materials that you will need for these sessions. In addition, you will want to consider arrangements for client access to you by phone and give some thought to what phone number you will be giving to your clients.

Your Faculty Supervisor is there to assist you throughout this Internship, not only with the assignments and the theoretical knowledge, but also to provide support and information based on her experience.

This program is designed to develop your professional skills and ability to deliver the highest quality **FertilityCare** services possible. You will find the educational experience an outstanding one, and if you give attention to these preliminary items of preparation, you will find that the year will run very smoothly for you.

A Health Occupation Program of  
St. Joseph School of Nursing  
Nashua, NH  
USA

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