REGULATIONS FOR THE
POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN DIAGNOSIS
AND THERAPEUTICS IN INTERNAL MEDICINE
(PDipIntMed&Therapeutics)

(See also General Regulations)

M135 Admission requirements
To be eligible for admission to the programme leading to the Postgraduate Diploma in Diagnosis and Therapeutics in Internal Medicine, a candidate shall
(a) comply with the General Regulations; and
(b) hold the degrees of MBBS of this University, or another qualification of equivalent standard from this University or from another university or comparable institution accepted for this purpose; and
(c) possess post registration experience of not less than one year; and
(d) satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination, if required.

M136 Qualifying examination
(a) A qualifying examination may be set to test the candidate’s academic ability or his/her ability to follow the courses of study prescribed.
(b) A candidate who is required to satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination shall not be permitted to register until he/she has satisfied the examiners in the examination.

M137 Award of diploma
To be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma in Diagnosis and Therapeutics in Internal Medicine, a candidate shall:
(a) comply with the General Regulations; and
(b) complete the curriculum and satisfy the examiners in accordance with the regulations set out below.

M138 Length of curriculum
The curriculum shall extend over not more than two academic years of part-time study with approximately 200 hours of prescribed work.

M139 Completion of curriculum
To complete the curriculum, a candidate shall
(a) follow courses of instruction as prescribed in the syllabus and complete satisfactorily all required written, practical and/or clinical work;
(b) satisfy the attendance requirements, if any;
(c) satisfy the examiners in each module by continuous assessment and/or by clinical and/or written examination at the end of the module; and
(d) complete and present a satisfactory dissertation on an approved topic.

A candidate who fails to fulfil the requirements within the prescribed maximum period of study shall be recommended for discontinuation under the provisions of General Regulation G12, except that a candidate who is unable because of illness or circumstances beyond his/her control to complete the
requirements within the prescribed maximum period of study, may apply to the Board of Studies for permission to extend his/her period of study.

M140 Examinations

(a) A candidate who has failed to satisfy the examiners in a module may be permitted
   (i) to attend a supplementary examination of the module; or
   (ii) to repeat the module in the following academic year that the module is offered and to re-take the prescribed assessment(s); or
   (iii) to re-take the prescribed assessment(s) in the following academic year that the module is offered without repeating the module.

(b) A candidate who has presented an unsatisfactory dissertation but has satisfied the examiners in the modules may be permitted to revise the dissertation and to re-present it within a specified period of not more than four months after receipt of a notice that it is unsatisfactory.

(c) A candidate who is not permitted to present himself/herself for re-examination in any module(s) in which he/she has failed to satisfy the examiners or to revise and re-present the dissertation shall be recommended for discontinuation of studies under General Regulation G12.

(d) A candidate who has failed to satisfy the examiners in a second attempt in any module(s) or the dissertation shall be recommended for discontinuation of studies under the provisions of General Regulation G12.

M141 Examination results

At the conclusion of the examination a pass list shall be published. A candidate who has shown exceptional merit in all the assessments may be awarded a mark of distinction and this mark shall be recorded in the candidate’s transcript.
SYLLABUSES FOR THE
POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN DIAGNOSIS
AND THERAPEUTICS IN INTERNAL MEDICINE
(PDipIntMed&Therapeutics)

The Postgraduate Diploma in Diagnosis and Therapeutics comprises 12 modules. Completion of all the modules with at least 80% attendance of lectures and 70% attendance of clinical attachment within the 2-year period of study is required. In addition, a candidate is required to complete and present a written work of about 3,000 to 3,500 words on an approved topic, from one of the 12 modules as listed below, not later than June 1 of the final year of study.

Modules (14 hours each)
- MEDI6401 - Cardiology
- MEDI6402 - Clinical Pharmacology
- MEDI6403 - Endocrinology and Diabetes
- MEDI6404 - Geriatrics
- MEDI6405 - Haematology
- MEDI6406 - Gastroenterology and Hepatology
- MEDI6407 - Infectious Diseases and Medical Dermatology
- MEDI6408 - Medical Oncology
- MEDI6409 - Nephrology
- MEDI6410 - Neurology
- MEDI6411 - Respiratory Medicine
- MEDI6412 - Rheumatology

MEDI6401 - Cardiology
- Stroke prevention in atrial fibrillation
- Advances in management of valvular heart disease (TAVI and MitralClip)
- Current role of non-invasive and invasive cardiac imaging techniques
- Advances in management of structural heart diseases
- Workshop: Cardiovascular risk assessment and management
- Clinical approach to common cardiovascular symptoms
- Managing cardiac arrhythmias: General principles of investigation and management
- Update in management of stable angina
- Practical guide for ECG interpretation
- Workshop: ECG workshop
- Latest advances on treatment of acute coronary syndrome
- Heart murmur in adult: When would you like to take action?
- Cardiac emergencies: Acute pulmonary embolism, acute aortic diseases and hypertensive crisis
- Pharmacological and device therapy for heart failure
- Workshop: Case based discussion on the cardiac emergencies

Clinical Attachment
- CCU round and cardiac cath lab visit: grand round in CCU and Cardiac Beds, Invasive procedures in cath lab

MEDI6402 - Clinical Pharmacology
- Role of clinical pharmacology in modern therapeutics
- Drug adverse effects and interactions that matter
How do we improve medication safety?
- When do drug levels matter and why?
- Workshop: Drug toxicity and overdose
- Coping with new therapeutic claims: A common sense approach to evaluating clinical trial results
- The power of meta-analysis
- Biological therapy for non-malignant diseases
- Cost-effective prescribing
- Workshop: Recent clinical trials and guidelines that might change clinical practice
- New guidelines on the management of hypertension
- Workshop: Safe prescribing in pregnancy
- Treatment & immunization of respiratory viral infections in general practice
- Antibiotic recommendations for community-acquired infections
- Achieving quality prescribing: Summary recommendations

Clinical Attachment
- Therapeutic Round

MEDI6403 - Endocrinology and Diabetes
- Diagnosis and monitoring of diabetes
- Treatment modalities in diabetes
- Management of diabetic complications
- Special issues in diabetes management (sick day management, pregnancy, etc)
- Workshop: Practical aspects of insulin therapy / Assessment of diabetes complications
- Biochemical and radiological evaluation of thyroid disorders
- Diagnosis and management of common thyroid disorders (including thyroid nodules)
- Complications of thyroid disease and Graves’ ophthalmopathy
- Management of thyroid disorders during pregnancy
- Workshop: Interpretations of thyroid function tests / Effects of non-thyroidal drugs on thyroid function
- Recent advances on treatment of osteoporosis and metabolic bone disease
- Approach to manage male hypogonadism and erectile dysfunction
- Approach to a patient with menstrual disorders
- Secondary hypertension: Diagnosis and treatment
- Workshop: Interpretation of bone mineral density tests

Clinical Attachment
- Diabetes Centre
- Osteoporosis Centre

MEDI6404 - Geriatrics
- Introduction: Ageing
- Geriatric services in Hong Kong
- Dementia
- Workshop: Differential diagnosis & management. Interactive case discussion with illustration of cognitive assessment tools, lab., CT, MRI, PET & SPECT, csf biomarkers
- Drug use in the elderly
- Nutrition in the elderly
- Clinical approach: Geriatric assessment in the elderly
- Falls in the elderly
Incontinence in the elderly
Workshop: Interactive case discussion on dysphagia in the elderly with illustrations of VFSS assessment
Drug treatment and rehabilitation in stroke, Parkinson’s disease and deconditioning: The elderly: An holistic approach
Dizziness in the elderly
Medical management for elderly living in residential care homes - infectious diseases
Medical management for elderly living in residential care homes - non-infectious diseases
End-of-life care for elderly with terminal and end-stage diseases
Pressure ulcer: Prevention and management
Workshop: Gait disorder in the elderly

Clinical Attachment
Geriatrics Day Hospital

MEDI6405 - Haematology
Inherited causes of deranged coagulation
Acquired causes of deranged coagulation
Thrombotic diseases
Workshop on the rational use of anti-coagulants
Acute leukaemia
Myelodysplastic syndrome
Myeloproliferative neoplasms
Acquired causes of anaemia
Inherited causes of anaemia
Workshop on the diagnosis and treatment of anaemia
Malignant lymphoma, classification and treatment
Plasma cell dyscrasia
Chemotherapy and side effects
Haematological manifestations of systemic illness
Chronic lymphoproliferative diseases
Thrombocytopenia
Indications of blood component therapy
Issues and safety of blood component therapy

Clinical Attachment:
OPD Haematology Clinic

MEDI6406 - Gastroenterology and Hepatology
Interpretation of liver function test
Workshop
Treatment of complications of cirrhosis
Treatment of chronic hepatitis B (I)
Treatment of chronic hepatitis B (II)
Occult hepatitis B and case discussions
Advances in therapeutic endoscopy procedures and imaging in GI tract
Management of irritable bowel syndrome
Gastric and colon cancer: Screening, diagnosis and management
• Treatment of Helicobacter pylori and dyspepsia
• Workshop: Case discussion - Case history of patients with dyspepsia, GERD, resistant Helicobacter pylori infection, etc.
• Treatment of hepatitis C and other liver diseases
• Fibroscan and liver diseases
• Update on management of gastro-esophageal reflux disease
• Workshop: Case scenario - capsule endoscopy, double balloon enteroscopy, CT colonoscopy, etc.
  When, why and how?

Clinical Attachment:
• Upper Endoscopy
• GI Clinic
• ERCP

MEDI6407 - Infectious Diseases and Medical Dermatology

Infectious diseases
• Diagnostic and therapeutic principle of infectious diseases
• Basic principles on infection control
• Infectious diseases after international travel: Diagnosis and treatment
• Clinical approach to fever of unknown origin
• Therapeutic approach to common infection of respiratory system
• Update on HIV infection in Hong Kong
• Treatment of infection of the GI tract: Acute and chronic diarrhoea
• Update on treatment of endocarditis and intravascular infections
• Current therapy for urinary tract infection
• Treatment of meningitis and central nervous system infection
• Workshop: Case based discussion

Dermatology
• Management approach to drug eruptions
• Treatment of infections of the skin and soft tissues
• Management of life-threatening dermatoses
• Cutaneous manifestations of medical diseases: Implication on treatment
• Workshop: Pictorial tour of common dermatoses

Clinical Attachment – Infectious Diseases:
• ID Round

Clinical Attachment - Dermatology:
• Dermatology Clinic

MEDI6408 - Medical Oncology

• Molecular genetics and biomarkers in cancer
• Concepts in systemic therapy of cancer
• Medical emergencies in cancer
• Principle of radiotherapy treatment
• Multiple facets of cancer palliative care
- The application of PET-CT in oncology
- Breast cancer treatment: Adjuvant
- Breast cancer treatment: Metastatic
- Advances in the diagnosis and management of lung cancer
- The management of early and advanced colorectal cancer patients
- Breakthroughs in the management of hepatobiliary and pancreatic cancers
- Oesophageal and gastric cancers: Latest advances
- Workshop: Interesting cases in breast, lung and gastrointestinal cancers
- Advances in the treatment of head & neck cancer
- Advances in gynaecological cancer
- Nuts and buts in genitourinary cancer
- Fertility issues in cancer patients
- Treatment of elderly patients with cancer and psychosocial need of cancer patients
- Workshop: Developmental therapeutics

Clinical Attachment
- Medical Oncology Clinic
- GI Oncology Clinic

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MEDI6409 - Nephrology

- Treatment of specific renal diseases (I) - IgA nephropathy, renal vasculitis, anti-GBM disease
- Acute renal failure – important causes, diagnosis, and management
- Presenting features and investigations in renal medicine
- Workshop: Sodium and potassium disorders
- Workshop: Metabolic acidosis
- Kidney transplantation – the basics
- Management of the kidney transplant recipient
- Treatment of specific renal diseases (II) – lupus nephritis, renal diseases in Sjogren’s syndrome, multiple myeloma, HUS/TTP
- Drugs and the kidney
- Workshop: Case discussions – dialysis / renal transplantation
- Dialysis as long-term renal replacement therapy
- Chronic renal failure – complications and management
- Workshop: Case discussions – Acute renal failure / glomerular diseases
- Approach to tubulointerstitial diseases
- Specific renal diseases (III) – minimal change disease, membranous nephropathy, focal segmental glomerulosclerosis, membranoproliferative glomerulonephritis

Clinical Attachment:
- Renal Clinic

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MEDI6410 - Neurology

- Approach to neurological diagnosis
- Common movement disorders: Diagnosis and management
- Parkinson’s disease: Diagnosis and management
- Neurological investigations: EEG, EMG, NCV, imaging studies
- Epilepsy: Diagnosis & management
• Impaired consciousness, dizziness, headaches & neuralgia
• Diagnosis and risk factors of stroke
• Acute management of stroke
• Stroke prevention
• Neuro-intervention in ischaemic stroke
• Interactive stroke cases illustration
• Common CNS infections: Diagnosis and management
• Update on treatment of multiple sclerosis & demyelinating disorders
• Approach to patients with myasthenia gravis, common neuropathies & myopathies
• Neuro-rehabilitation
• Workshop: 2 case-based discussion on the management of neuro-rehabilitation

**Clinical Attachment:**
• Neurophysiology
• Neurology Ward Round
• Neurorehabilitation

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**MEDI6411 - Respiratory Medicine**

• Clinical updates 1
• Influenza & pneumonia
• Tuberculosis: Practical issues
• Workshop: Chest imaging
• Clinical updates 2
• Practical approach to treatment of asthma
• COPD: Clinical guidelines and daily practice
• Workshop: Spirometry, skin tests, inhaler devices, oxygen therapy, NIPPV
• Diagnostic approach in suspected lung cancer
• Recent advances in treatment of lung cancer
• Interstitial lung disease
• Practical approach to sleep apnoea
• Interactive case workup: A series of cases to brush up your diagnostic skills (chemical pathology, radiology, polysomnogram)

**Clinical Attachment:**
• Visit to fibreoptic bronchoscopy room: standard FOB, autofluorescence bronchoscopy, endobronchial ultrasound guided FNA (actual cases, or videos); Lung Function Tests Lab and Sleep Study Lab – observational only

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**MEDI6412 - Rheumatology**

• Approach to patients with rheumatic complaints
• Laboratory investigation for autoimmune diseases
• Radiological investigation for rheumatic diseases
• Juvenile arthritis: Diagnosis and management
• Case based workshop: Easy guide to diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of rheumatoid arthritis
• Fibromyalgia
• Conventional and new treatment for gouty arthritis
• Treatment of osteoarthritis
• Approach to low back pain in the primary care setting
- Case based workshop: Stigmata of connective tissue diseases
- Diagnosis and management of spondyloarthritis
- Diagnosis and management of inflammatory myositis
- Immunology for rheumatology made easy
- Special issues in the management of rheumatic diseases: Vaccination, contraception, pregnancy counselling and pre-operative management and the rest
- Case based workshop: Easy guide to diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of systemic lupus erythematosus

**Clinical Attachment:**
- Rheumatology Grand Round
- Rheumatology Clinic