REGULATIONS FOR THE POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN INFECTIOUS DISEASES (PDipID)

(See also General Regulations)

M.57 Admission requirements

To be eligible for admission to the curriculum for the Postgraduate Diploma in Infectious Diseases a candidate shall

a) comply with the General Regulations;
b) hold the degree of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery of this University, or a degree or other qualification of equivalent standard from another university or comparable institution accepted for this purpose.

M.58 Award of diploma

To be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma in Infectious Diseases 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.

M.59 Curriculum

The curriculum shall comprise an approved programme of study and practice in a field related to the practice of infectious diseases as prescribed in the syllabuses. It shall consist of a minimum of 360 hours of teaching and prescribed work normally extending over two academic years of part-time study. This will comprise 1) lectures (60 hours), 2) clinical attachment (60 hours) including infectious diseases consultations/rounds and case presentations, 3) project (120 hours) and 4) literature review (120 hours). The curriculum shall include all examinations.

To complete the curriculum a candidate shall

a) follow instruction in the courses prescribed and complete satisfactorily all coursework requirements; and
b) satisfy the examiners in all examinations as may be required.

M.60 Examinations

Examinations may take the form of written papers, project work and presentations at clinical rounds, assessments of coursework and a project dissertation, or a combination of these methods.

A candidate who has failed to satisfy the examiners in any part of the examinations may be permitted to present himself again for examination at a time to be determined by the Board of Examiners, or he may be recommended for discontinuation of studies under the provisions of General Regulation G12.

M.61 Examination results

At the conclusion of the examinations, the names of the successful candidates shall be published in alphabetical order.

SYLLABUSES FOR THE POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1) Biology of agents of infection

The major infectious agents which include parasites, bacteria, fungi, virus and prions causing infections will be reviewed with special emphasis on those of local importance. This will include the general and molecular biology of microbe-host interaction, immunology, pathology and laboratory diagnosis of the agents and their associated diseases.

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2) Epidemiology and control of infection

This will provide an introduction to communicable disease epidemiology, public health and hospital infection control. Students will be exposed to a range of approaches of infection control with the emphasis being placed on outbreaks of hospital acquired infections.

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3) Antimicrobial chemotherapy and immunisation

The principles of selective toxicity of antibiotics will be studied from the molecular, biochemical and clinical perspective. The importance of laboratory sensitivity testing, trends of antimicrobial resistance and bedside decision-making will be emphasised.

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4) Clinical infectious disease

The general clinical approach to individual patients suffering from suspected infection will be presented. A comprehensive review of the diagnosis and management of common infectious diseases, infectious disease emergencies and rare but treatable conditions will be covered.