

**REGULATIONS FOR THE  
POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN COMMUNITY PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE  
(PDipComPsychMed)**

*(See also General Regulations)*

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**M.81 Admission requirements**

To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the Postgraduate Diploma in Community Psychological Medicine, a candidate shall

- (a) comply with the General Regulations; and
  - (b) hold a medical degree of this University or from a comparable institution accepted for this purpose; and
  - (c) possess post registration experience of not less than one year.
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**M.82 Qualifying examination**

- (a) A qualifying examination may be set to test the candidate's academic ability or his or 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 or she has satisfied the examiners in the examination.
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**M.83 Length of curriculum**

The curriculum shall extend over not less than one academic year of part-time study, with a minimum of 200 hours of prescribed work.

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**M.84 Completion of curriculum**

To complete the curriculum, a candidate shall

- (a) follow instruction in the syllabuses prescribed for the course and complete satisfactorily all required written, practical or clinical work; and
  - (b) satisfy the examiners in the course by continuous assessments and by clinical and written examinations at the end of the teaching programme.
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**M.85 Examinations**

- (a) A candidate who has failed to satisfy the examiners in a course of instruction may be permitted
  - (i) to attend a supplementary examination; or
  - (ii) to repeat the course or courses of instruction in the following academic year and to re-take the prescribed examination or examinations; or
  - (iii) to re-take the prescribed examination or examinations in the following academic year without repeating the course or courses of instruction; or
  - (iv) to undertake the study of an alternative course or courses of instruction in the following academic year and to take the prescribed examination or examinations.
- (b) A candidate who is not permitted to present himself or herself for re-examination in any subject or subjects in which he or she has failed to satisfy the examiners shall be recommended for discontinuation of studies under General Regulation G12.

**M.86 Examination results**

At the conclusion of the examination a pass list shall be published. A candidate who has shown exceptional merit at the whole examination may be awarded a mark of distinction and this mark shall be recorded in the candidate's postgraduate diploma.

## **SYLLABUS FOR THE POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN COMMUNITY PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE**

**OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the Postgraduate Diploma in Community Psychological Medicine are:

- (a) To promote the practice of psychological medicine among primary care doctors
- (b) To improve the knowledge, skills and confidence of primary care doctors in the care of the patients with psychological problems.
- (c) To emphasise the aspects of care that are different for patients with psychological problems.
- (d) To present information on the medical care of patients with psychological problems that is practical, concise and relevant to primary care
- (e) To appreciate the interdisciplinary nature of psychological medicine.
- (f) To focus on community care, i.e. assessment of patients with psychological problems in their normal community environment, and the use of community resources as an integral part of their care.
- (g) To emphasise the importance of prevention and health maintenance in patients with psychological problems
- (h) To present a positive model of psychological medical practice.

**LENGTH OF CURRICULUM**

The Postgraduate Diploma in Community Psychological Medicine extends over one academic year of part-time study.

**CURRICULUM STRUCTURE**

The programme will commence in September each year. There will be seminars, group discussions, clinical training in psychotherapy and clinical teaching sessions by specialist clinicians. Clinical attachments will be conducted at various public hospitals where psychiatric teams are based.

**SYLLABUS**

- Stress related disorders
- Sleep disorders and eating disorders
- Somatiform disorders
- Anxiety disorders – panic and phobic disorders
- Anxiety disorders – obsessive-compulsive and related disorders
- Mood disorders and suicide

- Substance abuse including alcoholism
- Psychotic disorders and organic disorders
- Child and adolescent psychiatry
- Psychogeriatrics
- Sexual disorders
- Mental retardation and behaviour disorders
- Mental disorders in women (especially post-partum depression)
- Ethical and cross cultural issues in psychological medicine
- Psychotherapy – supportive and brief
- Psychotherapy – cognitive-behavioural
- Inter-personal psychotherapy
- Hypnosis and fringe therapies
- Crisis intervention and social treatment (including rehabilitation)
- Pharmacotherapy