

**REGULATIONS FOR THE  
POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN COMMUNITY GERIATRICS  
(PDipCommunityGeriatrics)**

*(See also General Regulations)*

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**M.51 Admission requirements**

To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the Postgraduate Diploma in Community Geriatrics, 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 practical experience of not less than one year.
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**M.52 Qualifying examination**

- (a) A qualifying examination may be set to test the candidate's academic ability or his 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 has satisfied the examiners in the examination.
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**M.53 Length of curriculum**

The curriculum shall extend over not less than one academic year of part-time study. A minimum of 200 hours of prescribed work are required.

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**M.54 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.55 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 for re-examination in any subject or subjects in which he has failed to satisfy the examiners shall be recommended for discontinuation of studies under General Regulation G12.

**M.56 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.

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**SYLLABUS FOR THE  
POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN COMMUNITY GERIATRICS****OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the Postgraduate Diploma in Community Geriatrics are:

- (a) to promote the practice of geriatric medicine among primary care doctors;
  - (b) to improve the knowledge, skills and confidence of primary care doctors in the care of the elderly;
  - (c) to emphasise the aspects of care that are different for older people;
  - (d) to present information on the medical care of older people that is practical, concise and relevant to primary care;
  - (e) to appreciate the interdisciplinary nature of geriatric medicine;
  - (f) to focus on community care, i.e. assessment of older people 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 older people; and
  - (h) to present a positive model of geriatric practice
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**LENGTH OF CURRICULUM**

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

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**CURRICULUM STRUCTURE**

The Course will commence in September each year. Distance learning materials are issued to students at the beginning of the Course. Interactive workshops will be conducted at the Faculty of Medicine campus. Clinical attachments will be conducted at various public hospitals where geriatric teams are based.

**SYLLABUSES****Distance Learning Study**

- Social aspects of ageing
- Clinical aspects of ageing
- Iatrogenesis
- Mental disorders of old age
- Bladder and bowel problems
- Tiredness, anorexia and weight loss
- Breathlessness

- Turns, tumbles and tremors
- Hypertension
- Wound management
- Painful conditions
- Nursing home and institutional care
- Functional independence and rehabilitation
- Healthy ageing – health promotion and disease prevention
- Ethical issues

### **Interactive Workshops**

- Social services
- Health and medical services
- The principles of caring for the aged
- Nutrition in older people
- Chronic illnesses
- Rational prescribing
- Geriatric medicine and the law

### **Clinical teaching of rehabilitation and community health services**

- Allied health services, including physiotherapy and occupational therapy
- Day Hospital
- Community geriatric assessment team
- Community nursing services

### **Clinical Geriatric Teaching**

- Dementia
- Fall
- Incontinence
- Stroke
- Oedema
- Breathlessness
- Tremor
- Weakness
- Abnormal gait
- Osteoporosis
- Depression