

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

(See also General Regulations)

M.135 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.
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M.136 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.
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M.137 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.
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M.138 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.

M.139 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.

M.140 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.
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M.141 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**

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 Disease and Medical Dermatology
- MEDI6408 - Medical Oncology
- MEDI6409 - Nephrology
- MEDI6410 - Neurology
- MEDI6411 - Respiratory Medicine
- MEDI6412 - Rheumatology

MEDI6401 - Cardiology

- Clinical approach to common cardiovascular symptoms
- Practical guide for ECG interpretation
- Current role of non-invasive and invasive cardiac imaging techniques
- Practical approach on evaluation and management of cardiovascular risk factors
- Workshop: ECG workshop
- Hypertension guideline in practice
- Recent advances in management of acute and chronic heart failure
- Current management issues in stable angina.
- Heart murmur in adult: when would you like to take action?
- Workshop: Case based discussion on the management of hypertension and shortness of breath
- Latest advances on treatment of acute coronary syndrome
- Managing cardiac arrhythmias: general principles of investigation and management
- Management strategies for atrial fibrillation
- Cardiac emergencies: acute pulmonary embolism, acute aortic diseases and hypertensive crisis
- Workshop: Case based discussion on the cardiac emergencies

Clinical Attachment

- Non-invasive assessment: treadmill, Holter, Echocardiogram
 - CCU round and cardiac cath lab visit: grand round in CCU and Cardiac Beds, Invasive procedures in cath lab
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MEDI6402 - Clinical Pharmacology

- Role of Clinical Pharmacology in modern therapeutics
 - When do drug levels matter and why?
 - Avoiding medical errors
 - Drug adverse effects and interactions that matter
 - Workshop: Drug toxicity and overdose
 - Coping with new therapeutic claims : a common sense approach to evaluating clinical trial results
 - Contemporary drug prescribing for patients with Diabetes, and Obesity
 - What good is a meta-analysis?
 - Why and how to think of Number Needed to Treat (NNT)
 - Workshop: Recent clinical trials / guidelines that have changed / challenged medical practice
 - Principles of drug prescribing at the extremes of age
 - Drug prescribing in children & during pregnancy
 - Infective Endocarditis Chemoprophylaxis: New Guidelines
 - Modern management of Hypertension, and the Metabolic Syndrome
 - Workshop: Drug therapy for Influenza, and Community acquired MRSA infections
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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
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MEDI6404 - Geriatrics

- Introduction: Ageing and geriatric services in Hong Kong
- Dementia: Diagnosis, differential diagnosis and management
- Workshop: Interactive case discussion with illustration of cognitive assessment tools, lab test results. CT, MRI, PET & SPECT
- Clinical approach: Geriatric assessment in the elderly
- Falls in the elderly
- Gait disorder in the elderly
- Workshop: Interactive case discussion on urinary incontinence in the elderly. Urodynamics: Illustration of common causes
- Dizziness in the elderly
- Workshop: Interactive case discussion on dysphagia in the elderly with illustrations of VFSS assessment
- Rehabilitation of the elderly
- Drug use in the elderly
- Pressure ulcer management
- Nutrition in the elderly
- Medical management for elderly living in old aged homes - infectious diseases
- Medical management for elderly living in old aged homes - non-infectious diseases

Clinical Attachment

- Geriatrics Day Hospital
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MEDI6405 - Haematology

- Approach to patients with anemia
- Update on myeloproliferative disease
- Treatment of myelodysplastic syndrome
- Latest advance on therapy for acute leukaemia
- Workshop: Cases discussion - patients with abnormal blood counts
- Approach and treatment of bleeding tendency I- Platelet
- Approach and treatment of bleeding tendency II- Coagulation
- Workshop: Patients with bleeding and clotting problems
- Update on treatment of thrombophilia
- Practical management of anti-thrombotic therapy
- Workshop: Case discussion on thrombosis
- Recent advance on treatment of lymphoma
- Treatment of myeloma
- Updates on immunoglobulin and plasma exchange therapy

- Issues with blood products transfusion
- Workshop: Case discussion - Approach to patients with lymphadenopathy

Clinical Attachment:

- OPD Haematology Clinic
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MEDI6406 - Gastroenterology and Hepatology

- Interpretation of liver function test
- Screening and treatment for hepatocellular carcinoma
- Treatment of chronic hepatitis B (I)
- Treatment of chronic hepatitis B (II)
- Workshop: Case discussion – liver
- Advances in therapeutic endoscopy procedures and imaging in GI tract
- Treatment of GI motility problems: Constipation and diarrhoea
- Treatment of Helicobacter pylori and dyspepsia
- Gastric and colon cancer: screening, diagnosis and management
- Workshop: Case discussion - Case history of patients with dyspepsia, GERD, resistant Helicobacter pylori infection, etc.
- Treatment of complications of cirrhosis
- 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
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MEDI6407 - Infectious Diseases and Medical Dermatology

Infectious diseases

- Diagnostic and therapeutic principles of Infectious Disease
- Infectious diseases after international travel: diagnosis and treatment
- Clinical approach to fever of unknown origin
- Therapeutic approach to common infections of respiratory system
- Workshop: Case based discussion
- 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 II

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:

- Anti-biotic Round

Clinical Attachment - Dermatology:

- Dermatology Grand Round
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MEDI6408 - Medical Oncology

- Concepts in targeted anticancer therapy
- Screening and management of early colorectal cancer
- Advances in the management of lung cancer
- Breakthroughs in the management of HCC
- Workshop: Interesting cases in colon, lung and hepatocellular cancers
- Familial breast cancer: how much do you need to know?
- The cutting edge in breast cancer treatment: from hormone, chemo to targeted therapy
- Fertility issues in cancer patients
- Recent advances in radiologic imaging and diagnosis of cancer
- Workshop: Utility of CT-PET scanning in oncology
- Radiotherapy: from LINAC, isotopes to radio-immunoconjugate
- Advances in the treatment of Head & Neck cancer
- Medical Emergencies in cancer
- Palliative care
- Workshop: Management of side-effect of RT

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: Interpretation of renal investigations
- Workshop: Electrolytes and acid-base disorders
- 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 Ward Round

MEDI6410 - Neurology

- A Approach to neurological diagnosis
- Neurological investigations: EEG, EMG, NCV, imaging studies
- Headaches & trigeminal neuralgia: diagnosis and management
- Common movement disorders: diagnosis and management
- Workshop: Case based discussion of approach to neurological diagnosis and Parkinson's disease
- Stroke 1: diagnosis, risk factors, neuro-imaging
- Stroke 2: acute therapy, prevention
- Dizziness and impaired consciousness: diagnosis & management
- Diagnosis & management of epilepsy
- Workshop: Introduction to NIH Stroke Scale
- 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

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
- Practical approach to obstructive sleep apnoea
- Interactive case workup: a series of cases to brush up your diagnostic skills (chemical pathology, radiology, polysomnogram)

Clinical Attachment:

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

MEDI6412 - Rheumatology

- Approach to patients with rheumatic complaints
- Investigation of patients with rheumatic complaints
- Principles of drug treatment of rheumatic disorders
- Non-drug treatment of rheumatic disorders
- Workshop: Serology tests and their clinical interpretation

- Update on treatment of systemic lupus erythematosus
- Management of other connective tissue disorders
- Approach to unsuspected rheumatic disorders
- Treatment of emergency rheumatic disorders
- Workshop: Case based discussion on the management of soft tissue rheumatism and regional pain syndromes
- Update on gout and pseudo-gout
- Update on therapy for rheumatoid arthritis
- Approach to treatment of patients with ankylosing spondylitis and other sero-negative arthritis
- Treatment of osteoarthritis
- Workshop: Case based discussion on the management of rheumatoid arthritis and ankylosing spondylitis

Clinical Attachment:

- Rheumatology Grand Round
- Rheumatology Clinic