

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

(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 Diseases 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 pre-operative cardiac assessment
- 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 medication 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
- The power of 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
- Workshop: Drug therapy for community acquired MRSA infections

Clinical Attachment

- Therapeutic Round
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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
- Workshop
- 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
- Management of irritable bowel syndrome
- 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 infection of respiratory system
- Basic principles on infection control
- 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:

- Anti-biotic Round

Clinical Attachment - Dermatology:

- Dermatology Grand Round
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MEDI6408 - Medical Oncology

- Concepts in targeted anticancer therapy
- The management of early and advanced colorectal cancer patients
- Advances in the management of lung cancer
- Breakthroughs in the management of HCC
- Interactive Workshop: Interesting cases in colon, lung and hepatocellular cancers
- Molecular cancer biomarkers
- The cutting edge in breast cancer treatment: from hormone, chemo to targeted therapy
- Fertility issues in cancer patients
- The application of PET-CT in oncology
- Interactive Workshop: Utility of PET-CT in oncology
- Radiotherapy: from LINAC, isotopes to radio-immunoconjugate
- Advances in the treatment of Head & Neck cancer
- Medical Emergencies in cancer
- Palliative care
- Interactive 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: 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 Ward Round
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MEDI6410 - Neurology

- Approach to neurological diagnosis
- Neurological investigations: EEG, EMG, NCV, imaging studies
- Headaches & trigeminal neuralgia: diagnosis and management
- Common movement disorders: diagnosis and management
- Parkinson's disease: diagnosis and management
- Dizziness, impaired consciousness and epilepsy: diagnosis & management
- Diagnosis and risk factors of stroke
- Stroke prevention
- Neuro-intervention in ischaemic stroke
- Interactive stroke cases illustration
- Acute management of stroke
- 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
- 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
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MEDI6412 - Rheumatology

- Approach to patients with rheumatic complaints
- Investigation of patients with rheumatic complaints
- Principles of drug treatment of rheumatic disorders
- Immunology for rheumatology made easy
- Case based workshop: easy guide to diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of systemic lupus erythematosus
- The environment and rheumatic diseases
- Fibromyalgia
- Conventional and new treatment for gouty arthritis
- Approach to low back pain in the primary care setting
- Case based workshop: easy guide to diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of rheumatoid arthritis
- Early onset rheumatic diseases
- Dermatological manifestations of rheumatic diseases
- Ophthalmological manifestations of rheumatic diseases
- Special issues in the management of rheumatic diseases: vaccination, contraception, pregnancy counselling and pre-operative management and the rest
- Workshop: rheumatology quiz

Clinical Attachment:

- Rheumatology Grand Round
- Rheumatology Clinic