

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

*(See also General Regulations)*

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**M135 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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**M136 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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**M137 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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**M138 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.

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**M139 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.

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#### **M140 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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#### **M141 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.

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

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.

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**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
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**MEDI6401 - Cardiology**

- Stroke prevention in atrial fibrillation
- Advances in management of valvular heart disease (TAVI and MitralClip)
- Current role of non-invasive and invasive cardiac imaging techniques
- Advances in management of structural heart diseases
- Workshop: Cardiovascular risk assessment and management
- Clinical approach to common cardiovascular symptoms
- Managing cardiac arrhythmias: General principles of investigation and management
- Update in management of stable angina
- Practical guide for ECG interpretation
- Workshop: ECG workshop
- Latest advances on treatment of acute coronary syndrome
- Heart murmur in adult: When would you like to take action?
- Cardiac emergencies: Acute pulmonary embolism, acute aortic diseases and hypertensive crisis
- Pharmacological and device therapy for heart failure
- Workshop: Case based discussion on the cardiac emergencies

**Clinical Attachment**

- 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
- Drug adverse effects and interactions that matter

- How do we improve medication safety?
- When do drug levels matter and why?
- Workshop: Drug toxicity and overdose
- Coping with new therapeutic claims : A common sense approach to evaluating clinical trial results
- The power of meta-analysis
- Biological therapy for non-malignant diseases
- Cost-effective prescribing
- Workshop: Recent clinical trials and guidelines that might change clinical practice
- New guidelines on the management of hypertension
- Workshop: Safe prescribing in pregnancy
- Treatment & immunization of respiratory viral infections in general practice
- Antibiotic recommendations for community-acquired infections
- Achieving quality prescribing: Summary recommendations

#### **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
- Geriatric services in Hong Kong
- Dementia
- Workshop: Differential diagnosis & management. Interactive case discussion with illustration of cognitive assessment tools, lab., CT, MRI, PET & SPECT, csf biomarkers
- Drug use in the elderly
- Nutrition in the elderly
- Clinical approach: Geriatric assessment in the elderly
- Falls in the elderly

- Incontinence in the elderly
- Workshop: Interactive case discussion on dysphagia in the elderly with illustrations of VFSS assessment
- Drug treatment and rehabilitation in stroke, Parkinson's disease and deconditioning: The elderly: An holistic approach
- Dizziness in the elderly
- Medical management for elderly living in residential care homes - infectious diseases
- Medical management for elderly living in residential care homes - non-infectious diseases
- End-of-life care for elderly with terminal and end-stage diseases
- Pressure ulcer: Prevention and management
- Workshop: Gait disorder in the elderly

**Clinical Attachment**

- Geriatrics Day Hospital
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**MEDI6405 - Haematology**

- Inherited causes of deranged coagulation
- Acquired causes of deranged coagulation
- Thrombotic diseases
- Workshop on the rational use of anti-coagulants
- Acute leukaemia
- Myelodysplastic syndrome
- Myeloproliferative neoplasms
- Acquired causes of anaemia
- Inherited causes of anaemia
- Workshop on the diagnosis and treatment of anaemia
- Malignant lymphoma, classification and treatment
- Plasma cell dyscrasia
- Chemotherapy and side effects
- Haematological manifestations of systemic illness
- Chronic lymphoproliferative diseases
- Thrombocytopenia
- Indications of blood component therapy
- Issues and safety of blood component therapy

**Clinical Attachment:**

- OPD Haematology Clinic
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**MEDI6406 - Gastroenterology and Hepatology**

- Interpretation of liver function test
- Workshop
- Treatment of complications of cirrhosis
- Treatment of chronic hepatitis B (I)
- Treatment of chronic hepatitis B (II)
- Occult hepatitis B and case discussions
- Advances in therapeutic endoscopy procedures and imaging in GI tract
- Management of irritable bowel syndrome
- Gastric and colon cancer: Screening, diagnosis and management

- Treatment of Helicobacter pylori and dyspepsia
- Workshop: Case discussion - Case history of patients with dyspepsia, GERD, resistant Helicobacter pylori infection, etc.
- 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

**MEDI6407 - Infectious Diseases and Medical Dermatology**

Infectious diseases

- Diagnostic and therapeutic principle of infectious diseases
- Basic principles on infection control
- Infectious diseases after international travel: Diagnosis and treatment
- Clinical approach to fever of unknown origin
- Therapeutic approach to common infection of respiratory system
- 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:**

- ID Round

**Clinical Attachment - Dermatology:**

- Dermatology Clinic

**MEDI6408 - Medical Oncology**

- Molecular genetics and biomarkers in cancer
- Concepts in systemic therapy of cancer
- Medical emergencies in cancer
- Principle of radiotherapy treatment
- Multiple facets of cancer palliative care

- The application of PET-CT in oncology
- Breast cancer treatment: Adjuvant
- Breast cancer treatment: Metastatic
- Advances in the diagnosis and management of lung cancer
- The management of early and advanced colorectal cancer patients
- Breakthroughs in the management of hepatobiliary and pancreatic cancers
- Oesophageal and gastric cancers: Latest advances
- Workshop: Interesting cases in breast, lung and gastrointestinal cancers
- Advances in the treatment of head & neck cancer
- Advances in gynaecological cancer
- Nuts and butts in genitourinary cancer
- Fertility issues in cancer patients
- Treatment of elderly patients with cancer and psychosocial need of cancer patients
- Workshop: Developmental therapeutics

#### **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 Clinic
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#### **MEDI6410 - Neurology**

- Approach to neurological diagnosis
- Common movement disorders: Diagnosis and management
- Parkinson’s disease: Diagnosis and management
- Neurological investigations: EEG, EMG, NCV, imaging studies
- Epilepsy: Diagnosis & management

- Impaired consciousness, dizziness, headaches & neuralgia
- Diagnosis and risk factors of stroke
- Acute management of stroke
- Stroke prevention
- Neuro-intervention in ischaemic stroke
- Interactive stroke cases illustration
- 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
- Interstitial lung disease
- Practical approach to 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
- Laboratory investigation for autoimmune diseases
- Radiological investigation for rheumatic diseases
- Juvenile arthritis: Diagnosis and management
- Case based workshop: Easy guide to diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of rheumatoid arthritis
- Fibromyalgia
- Conventional and new treatment for gouty arthritis
- Treatment of osteoarthritis
- Approach to low back pain in the primary care setting



- Case based workshop: Stigmata of connective tissue diseases
- Diagnosis and management of spondyloarthritis
- Diagnosis and management of inflammatory myositis
- Immunology for rheumatology made easy
- Special issues in the management of rheumatic diseases: Vaccination, contraception, pregnancy counselling and pre-operative management and the rest
- Case based workshop: Easy guide to diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of systemic lupus erythematosus

**Clinical Attachment:**

- Rheumatology Grand Round
  - Rheumatology Clinic
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