MERCK FOUNDATION CAPACITY ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

Postgraduate Diploma in Internal Medicine

The course aims to enhance the existing knowledge and specialty training understanding of the processes, investigation procedures and treatment options for common diseases encountered in general medical practice.

This program specifically focuses on the following topics:

Year-1: Compulsory courses

- Principles of Clinical Pharmacology
- Science of Medicine
- Imaging in Medicine
- Principles of Laboratory Medicine
- Skills for Evidence Based Practice

Year-2: Compulsory courses + Electives (4)

- Acute Medicine and Clinical Decision Making
- Clinical Skills Principles



Electives: (Any 4 from list below)

- Cardiology
- Oncology
- Gastroenterology
- Diabetes and Endocrinology
- Respiratory
- Clinical Genetics
- Renal Medicine
- Haematology
- Neurology
- Intensive Care
- Cerebrovascular Medicine
- Principles of Quality Improvement in Healthcare
- Clinical Education and Teaching
- Dermatology
- Rheumatology
- Palliative Care and Symptom Management
- Headache Disorders: Diagnosis, Classification and Clinical Features

Postgraduate Diploma in Internal Medicine University from UK	
Duration	2- Years online learning platform

Eligibility:

- Bachelor's degree in Medicine and Surgery (Primary Medical Qualification) (e.g.: MBBS or MBChB)
- Candidates working within a public sector clinical setting (Preferably) with the aim to continue working in the public sector after graduation, in order to improve patient access to quality and equitable healthcare solutions
- Recommendation from the Ministry of Health or Office of The First Lady (For Asian Countries- Recommendation letter from The Ministry of Health or Vice Chancellor/Dean/Rector of the Medical University or President of respective Society or Medical Association)
- Proof of English language proficiency(details provided below)
- Accessibility to stable internet connection

Course Structure

The online course lasts two calendar years and is a part time distance learning course. It consists of 5 Compulsory modules for the 1st Year and 2 compulsory modules with4 Elective modules to be selected for the 2nd Year.

Year 1 – Compulsory modules:

Principles of Clinical Pharmacology:

This module highlights Pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetics principles with reasons for individual variation, drug monitoring, and types of adverse drug reactions will be discussed using interactive and problem-based scenarios.

Science of Medicine:

This module is designed as a preparatory course for the successful completion of the MRCP (Membership of the Royal College of Physicians) Part 1 exam.

Imaging in Medicine:

This module highlights understanding of the principles and practice of clinical radiology with experience in the interpretation of clinical radiology images through the use of clinical case scenarios

Principles of Laboratory Medicine

This module highlights a sound understanding of the laboratory techniques used to aid in the diagnosis of common general medical problems.

Skills for Evidence Based Practice:

This module highlights actively using tools throughout the course to create presentations, reviewing journal article, writing short review articles and basic statistical skills.

Year 2:

Acute Medicine and Clinical Decision Making

This module highlights the recognition, assessment and management of acutely ill patients, focusing on respiratory, cardiovascular, and neurological clinical presentations using clinical case scenarios

Clinical Skills Principles:

This module highlights about how to examine patients appropriately and thoroughly with key aspects to communicate effectively with patients and their families, including giving complex information, breaking bad news, shared decision-making, handling anger and distress, and addressing complaints about care.

Elective Modules: (Any 4 from list below)

Cardiology

This module highlights history taking, examination and bedside skills in cardiology, investigation techniques including echocardiography, use of therapeutics in heart disease, and management of cardiac emergencies.

Oncology

This module highlights presentation and investigation of cancer, the principles of cancer treatment, oncological emergencies and focuses on common cancers (lung, colorectal, breast and cervical cancer).

Gastroenterology

This module highlights clinical cases run in a systematic manner through the systems of the gastrointestinal tract, exploring the applied basic sciences in important clinical presentations.

Diabetes and Endocrinology

This module highlights the cases covering diagnosis, and effective management strategies in the speciality of diabetes and endocrinology.

Respiratory

This module highlights deeper level of knowledge and understanding in the speciality area of respiratory medicine and covers the presentation and investigation of lung disease, infections, airways and pulmonary vascular disease, and lung cancer.

Clinical Genetics

This module highlights diagnosis of inherited disorders and birth defects, estimation of genetic risks and genetic counselling of family members.

Renal Medicine

This module highlights presentation and investigation of renal disease, impact of systemic diseases on the kidney, and renal transplant surgery.

Haematology

This module highlights haematological malignancy and clotting disorders.

Neurology

This module highlights presentation of neurological disease in the acute and clinical settings, impact of immunological diseases on the brain and the nervous system, and diseases of the peripheral nervous system.

Intensive Care

This module highlights physiological monitoring for the severely ill patient, and continuing resuscitation, physiological support and treatment for a patient who is undergoing intensive care.

Cerebrovascular Medicine

This module highlights presentation and diagnosis of cerebral haemorrhage, strokes and ischaemia and advanced imaging in cerebrovascular medicine.

Principles of Quality Improvement in Healthcare

This module highlights the role of governments, organizations, professionals and service users in quality improvement initiatives with the impact of quality improvement initiatives and understand how to address errors which may be highlighted through these initiatives.

Clinical Education and Teaching

This module highlights how to implement teaching successfully within an organisation, and gain an appreciation of tools for assessment.

Dermatology

This module highlights disorders (inflammatory and neoplastic), acute emergency disease and cutaneous manifestations of internal disease.

Rheumatology

This module highlights inflammatory disease, connective tissue disease, management, drugs and therapeutics.

Palliative Care and Symptom Management

This module focusses to deliver high quality palliative and end of life care and to manage symptoms in patients with advanced, progressive, life-limiting disease.

Headache Disorders: Diagnosis, Classification and Clinical Features

This module highlights to manage & understand the difference between broad categories of headache types, such as episodic and chronic, and primary and secondary headaches and headache subtypes including, episodic tension type headaches, episodic migraine, chronic migraine, medication overuse headache and cluster headaches.

Assessment

Assessments are based on the Course work using written assessment, project or placement report, portfolio and Dissertation/ Research Project. Each of the 6 modules per year has the same assessment format. Due to the online nature of the course, students are expected to login and participate in the course regularly throughout the module.

Coursework – 100 %
Written Exam – 0 %
Practical Exam – 0 %

English language requirements:

Accepted English language qualifications with the grades specified below:

- IELTS Academic: total 6.5 with at least 6.0 in each component.
- TOEFL-iBT (including Special Home Edition): total 92 with at least 20 in each section. TOEFL MyBest Score is not accepted.
- CAE and CPE: total 176 with at least 169 in each paper.
- Trinity ISE: ISE II with distinctions in all four components.
- PTE Academic: 62 overall with at least 59 in each component.

English language qualification for CAE and CPE must be at the expiry of three and a half years from the start date of the program. For IELTS, TOEFL or Trinity ISE, it must be at the expiry of two years from the start date of the program.

Applicants should submit copies of the following with their application:

- A copy of your updated CV including your address and date of birth.
- Copy of qualification certificates.
- English language qualification.
- Personal statement.
- Recommendation from the Ministry of Health or Office of The First Lady (For Asian Countries- Recommendation letter from The Ministry of Health or Vice Chancellor/ Dean/Rector of the Medical University or President of respective Society or Medical Association)
- Income proof (one month Salary/Pay slip or Salary Statement or 3 months bank statement)