



MERCK FOUNDATION CANCER ACCESS PROGRAM

Postgraduate Diploma in Pain Management

The Postgraduate Diploma in Pain Management aims to impart specialist knowledge in the field of chronic pain management, and focuses on interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approaches to pain management and service provision. Upon successful completion of this course, student will be able to demonstrate a systematic understanding of the care of patients with pain, critically evaluate current research, and deliver management strategies for the investigation and treatment of pain conditions.

This program specifically focuses on the following topics:

- Mechanisms of Pain
- Types of Pain
- Principles of Pain Assessment and Management
- Multidisciplinary Approaches to Pain Management
- Pain in Specialist Populations
- Interdisciplinary Service Provision

Postgraduate Diploma in Pain Management, University from UK

Duration

1 Year online learning platform



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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)
- 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 one calendar year and is a part time distance learning course. It consists of 6 modules per year, each of 6 weeks duration.

Module 1 – Mechanisms of Pain

Aim of the module:

- To develop an advanced understanding and knowledge of the underlying causes and associated experiences of pain.

Synopsis of the module content:

- This module covers the history, epidemiology, and biopsychosocial model of pain; Chronic versus acute pain; Pain science; Current evidence; Severe pain syndromes; Patient considerations, and Global impact.



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Module 2 - Types of Pain

Aim of the module

- To enhance the knowledge and understanding of different types of pain with special emphasis on clinical importance.

Synopsis of the module content:

- This module covers the ISP taxonomy of different types of pain; Importance of early recognition and prevention of chronicity; Clinically important aspects of acute and chronic pain; Differences between the various types of pain; and new evidence on the topic.

Module 3 - Principles of Pain Assessment and Management

Aim of the module:

- To impart a critical knowledge of the clinical principles and practice of pain management.

Synopsis of the module content:

- This module covers assessment, measurement, diagnosis and prognosis of pain; Treatment modalities, including alternative modalities; Clinical Management, roles and responsibilities.



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Module 4 - Multidisciplinary Approaches to Pain Management

Aim of the module:

- To develop an understanding of different treatment approaches within the context of the overall approach to pain management.

Synopsis of the module content:

- This module covers physiology, pharmacology, psychology, manual therapies, self-management, functional Rehabilitation, surgery and post-surgery care.

Module 5 - Pain in Specialist Populations

Aim of the module:

- To develop an understanding and appreciation of pain across the life-span and experience.

Synopsis of the module content:

- This module covers pain across the life cycle (e.g., Older People, infants and children), pregnancy, vulnerable populations; Different presentations of pain, similarities, and differences; Communication in pain; and social aspects of pain.

Module 6 - Interdisciplinary Service Provision

Aim of the module:

- To critically evaluate the development of interdisciplinary pain services

Synopsis of the module content

- This module covers the evidence supporting interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary of pain; Organisational services; Role of evaluating organisations; Realistic expectations of the practitioner and carer; Emerging updated guidelines.



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Assessment

Assessments are done using clinical scenarios to enhance problem-solving, critical analysis and evidence-based care. Each of the 6 modules 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.

- Academic Forum - 40%
- Reflective Journal - 10%
- Module Assignments - 20%
- Case-Based Examination - 30%

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- Proof of English language proficiency
 - Proficiency in the English language is essential to completing courses. If English is NOT your first language, proof of competency during the application process is to be submitted.
 - An IELTS overall score of 6.0 (with a minimum of 5.5 for each band) or an equivalent qualification is required as proof of English Language Proficiency.
- Accessibility to stable Internet connection

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)



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