# MERCK FOUNDATION MORE THAN A MOTHER

## Postgraduate Diploma in Women's Health

The Postgraduate Diploma in Women's Health aims to advance the knowledge of medical graduates in women's health issues encountered at the primary care level. Upon successfully completing this program, students would be:

- Equipped with sound learning and vital decision-making skills necessary for dealing with issues in women's health.
- Able to efficiently undertake and execute complex processes in the delivery and advancement of women's healthcare.
- Equipped with a detailed understanding of evidence-based medicine and current updates in women's health.
- Contributing to widening of the scope of women's healthcare practice by appropriately implementing the practical knowledge gained.

| Postgraduate Diploma in Women's Health, University from UK | |
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| **Duration** | 1 Year online learning platform |

# Eligibility:

- Bachelor's Degree in Medicine and Surgery (MBBS or MBChB) - Primary medical qualification
- Candidates working within a Public Sector Clinical Setting (preferable)
- Recommendation letter from the concerned Ministry of Health or The 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 provded below)
- Access to a 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, each of 6 weeks duration.**

## Module 1 – Women's Health: An Overview

### Aim of the module:

- To analyze the anatomy, physiology, endocrinology, and pathology of women's health and study the professional and ethical issues that influence clinical practice and approach in potentially conflict situations.

### Synopsis of the module content:

- Importance of overall women's health
- Violence faced by women - Gender based and domestic
- Physiology and anatomy of the female reproductive system
- Pregnancy and normal placental function
- Prevention, screening, identification and treatment of common infectious disease affecting women

## Module 2 – Contraception, Abortion, and early pregnancy problems

### Aim of the module

- To study various family planning and fertility control options, including ethical considerations, and help develop critical skills in the diagnosis and management of early pregnancy conditions.

### Synopsis of the module content:

- This module discusses the public health considerations for contraception, early termination of pregnancy, early miscarriage, ectopic and molar pregnancy, miscarriages,and termination of pregnancy.

## Module 3 – Fetal Medicine

### Aim of the module:

- To develop critical knowledge and understanding of the pathophysiology that leads to fetal compromise, and learn about the prevention, diagnosis and management including counselling skills for the patients.

### Synopsis of the module content:

- This module would discuss the common structural and chromosomal abnormalities, prenatal screening and diagnosis, fetal infections, genetic diseases, intrauterine Growth Restriction (IUGR), ethics and counselling
- Understanding different ethical issues and vital clinical decision making in cases of fetal abnormalities, both pre and post, prenatal screening.



## Module 4 – Maternal Medicine

**Aim of the module:**

•To highlight the importance of early detection and effective management of maternal complications occurring during and/or as a result of the pregnancy.

**Synopsis of the module content:**

- This module discusses important topics like maternal mortality and morbidity, pregnancy-related diseases, effect of pregnancy on pre-existing diseases, labor issues, cesarean section, placental pathologies, the puerperium, and prevention of other serious pregnancy-related problems.
- This module would also highlight the importance of care during routine pregnancy visits, screening during pregnancy and appropriate management of abnormal pregnancy and childbirth.

## Module 5 – Female Cancers

**Aim of the module:**

- To provide in depth understanding of the serious threat of female cancers and endometriosis globally, and develop awareness about its primary and secondary prevention, diagnosis and timely specialist management.

**Synopsis of the module content:**

- Discuss the incidence and mortality associated with female cancers along with their prevention and diagnosis, and including vulval and cervical cancer, endometrial and ovarian cancer, breast cancer, and endometriosis and pelvic pain
- Provide an evidence-based approach to critically appraise the benefits of primary prevention, screening for early detection and treatment for cancers specific to women.

## Module 6 - Abnormal uterine bleeding (AUB), Menopause, and Urogynaecology

**Aim of the module:**

- To develop in-depth knowledge and understanding of benign gynaecological conditions throughout a woman's life course, and be able to diagnose abnormal bleeding disorders and urogynaecological conditions in order to provide evidence-based care.



## 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%
- Individual learning portfolio - 10%
- Group/individual Assignments - 20%
- Case based examination - 30%

## Eligibility Criteria

- 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
  - o 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.
  - o An **IELTS overall score of 6.5** (with a minimum of 6.0 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)