Merck Foundation
Capacity Advancement Program

Postgraduate Diploma in Infectious Diseases

The Postgraduate Diploma in Infectious Diseases course will provide the essential knowledge and skills to diagnose, treat and manage infectious diseases. With completion of the PG diploma in Infectious diseases, students will be equipped with systemic understanding of major infectious diseases from pathogenesis through diagnosis and treatment, and will also be able to evaluate evolving evidence-based medicine in relation to infectious diseases.

This program specifically focuses on the following topics:

- Immunology and biology of host-pathogen interaction
- Bacterial Infections
- Viral Infections
- Fungi, Parasites and Tropical Diseases
- Epidemiology, Public Health, Infection Control and Pandemics
- Infections in Special Groups

Postgraduate Diploma in Infectious Diseases, University from UK	
Duration	1 - Year 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)
- 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 provded 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 – Immunology and biology of host-pathogen interaction

- This module will provide students with the skills necessary to understand immune system, basic biology of different pathogen classes, and their interaction.

Module 2 – Bacterial Infections

- To understand and explore clinical presentation in bacterial infections and antibiotic & resistance mechanisms related to the bacterial and mycobacterial infection.



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Module 3 – Viral Infections

- To understand and explore clinical presentation in viral infections with antiviral, retroviral therapeutics options related, to but not limited to, respiratory pathogens, childhood viral infections, Viral Hepatitides, HIV infections.

Module 4 - Fungi, Parasites and Tropical Diseases

- To understand and explore clinical presentations of fungal pathogens and treatment options and mechanisms related to the tropical disease, travel-associated infections with a major emphasis on Malaria.

Module 5 - Epidemiology, Public Health, Infection Control and Pandemics

- This module will encourage a deeper understanding of the surveillance and reporting mechanisms around communicable disease, and population level disease prevention strategies including vaccination and infection control.

Module 6 - Infections in Special Groups

- This module will encourage a deeper understanding of infections in key groups in clinical practice and some common infections disease problems.

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
  - 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 6.0 (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)