MERCK FOUNDATION NATIONWIDE DIABETES & HYPERTENSION BLUE POINTS PROGRAM

Postgraduate Diploma in Cardiology

The Postgraduate Diploma in Cardiology aims to advance cardiovascular scientific knowledge, provide a wider understanding of diseases and how they progress and can be prevented. It aims to increase competency of practice and theoretical knowledge, enabling graduates to rise to the challenges of delivering high-quality care to their patients within a complex primary or secondary care environment.

This program specifically focuses on the following topics:

- Ischemic Heart Disease
- Heart Failure
- Arrythmias
- Valvular Heart Disease and Congenital Heart Disease
- Cardio-oncology. Infective, Inflammatory and Thromboembolic Cardiovascular Disorders.
- Cardiovascular Prevention and Physical Activity

Postgraduate Diploma in Cardiology, 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 – Ischemic Heart Disease

- This module will provide the students with comprehensive understanding of the presentation, diagnosis and management of patients with ischemic heart disease.

Module 2 – Heart Failure

- To understand and explore clinical presentation in diagnosis and management of patients with heart failure and understanding the treatment and management of heart failure, including the management of exacerbations and co-morbidities recognizing the complex effects on patient morbidity and mortality.



Module 3 – Arrythmias

- To understand the presentation, diagnosis and management of patients with arrhythmias and to compare the range of presenting rhythm disturbances and how they are investigated.

Module 4 - Valvular Heart Disease and Congenital Heart Disease

- To develop a comprehensive understanding of the presentation, diagnosis and management of patients with valvular heart disease and deeper understanding of anatomy, pathophysiology and the physiology of the cardiovascular system and its relevance to the pathophysiology of valvular heart disease.

Module 5 - Cardio-oncology. Infective, Inflammatory and Thromboembolic Cardiovascular Disorders.

- This module will encourage to identify and manage cardiovascular issues related to oncological therapies and demonstrate deeper understanding of the diagnosis, treatment and management of pulmonary embolism and critically differentiate conditions that lead to pulmonary hypertension, their investigation and treatment

Module 6 - Cardiovascular Prevention and Physical Activity

- To develop a comprehensive understanding of the significance of physical activity and cardiovascular prevention, and depth insight into the association of various comorbidities with cardiovascular risk.



Merck Foundation

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%

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 6.0** (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)