Merck Foundation
Capacity Advancement Program

Postgraduate Diploma in Acute Medicine

The aim of the course is to enhance existing skills of healthcare professionals and to have a comprehensive overview of applicable guidelines and procedures in the field of Acute Medicine which can be implemented in managing complex issues in patient management, which directly benefits patient care.

This program specifically focuses on the following topics:

- Respiratory and Cardiovascular Emergencies
- Diabetes and Endocrine Emergencies
- Gastroenterological Emergencies
- Acute Presentations with Infection and Sepsis
- Acute Neurological Disorders and Stroke
- Acute Renal, Metabolic and Toxicological Emergencies

Postgraduate Diploma in Acute Medicine, 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 • Recommendation from the Ministry of Health or Office of The First Lady • Proof of English language proficiency • Accessibility to stable internet connection

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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 - Respiratory and Cardiovascular Emergencies

Aims of the module:

• To be able to use relevant understanding, methodologies and approaches to address complex cases & to apply guideline and evidence-based care in the management of acutely ill patients with cardio-respiratory conditions.

Synopsis of the module content:

• Guideline directed approach to the management of patients with acute cardio-respiratory diseases including

- Severe hypertension, acute heart failure, acute coronary syndrome, arrhythmias, thromboembolic disease, acute exacerbations of chronic respiratory disease, pneumonia, pneumothorax, pleural effusions, acute asthma, respiratory failure & cardiac arrest.

Module 2 - Diabetes and Endocrine Emergencies

Aims of the module:

• To enhance the management of complex cases presenting with a variety of acute diabetic and endocrine conditions & apply guideline and evidence-based care in the management of acutely ill patients.

Synopsis of the module content:

• This module includes management of patients presenting with various acute diabetic and endocrine diseases like:

- Diabetic ketoacidosis, hypoglycemia, hyperosmolar non-ketosis, acute hypercalcemia, thyrotoxicosis, hypocalcemia, adrenal crisis.

Module 3 - Gastroenterological Emergencies

Aims of the module:

• To manage effectively acutely ill patients presenting with gastrointestinal conditions.

Synopsis of the module content:

Effectively management of patients presenting with acute gastrointestinal (GI) illnesses like:

• Upper GI hemorrhage, acute abdominal pain, Intractable vomiting, Inflammatory bowel disease, acute liver disease, hepatic encephalopathy, cirrhosis, GI infections (such as dysentery and gastroenteritis) & GI malignancy.

Module 4 - Acute Presentations with Infection and Sepsis

Aims of the module:

• Aim of this module is to teach how to apply guideline and evidence-based care in the management of acutely ill patients & to facilitate the critical evaluation of actions, methods and results used in the management of acute infections

Synopsis of the module content:

• Management, investigation & diagnosis of patients presenting with acute bacterial, viral and fungal infection relating to all organ systems, patient's sepsis, bacteremia & immune-compromised individual in relation to infection.

Module 5 - Acute Neurological Disorders and Stroke

Aims of the module:

• To develop vital understanding for the assessment and management of acute neurological disorders and strokes

Synopsis of the module content:

Diagnosis & management of patients with acute neurological disorders like:

• Acute stroke, epilepsy, cerebral infections, cerebral haemorrhage, haematomas & venous sinus thrombosis, acute cerebral malignancy, dystonias, ataxias & acute neuronopathies and neuropathies and raised intracranial pressure.

Module 6 - Acute Renal, Metabolic and Toxicological Emergencies

Aims of the module:

• To develop relevant understanding of evaluation of acute kidney, metabolic and toxicological disorders

Management of toxicological emergencies like:

- Overdoses (both accidental and non-accidental), acute drug reactions and anaphylaxis, patients with metabolic and renal issues, including acute kidney injury, acid-base disorders, hyperkalemia and acute hyponatraemia, Implementation of renal replacement therapy including dialysis.

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
- Recommendation from the Ministry of Health or Office of The First Lady
- 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)