MERCK FOUNDATION DIABETES BLUE POINTS PROGRAM

Postgraduate Diploma in Endocrinology

All health practitioners are exposed to patients suffering from endocrine-related disorders. Primary care physicians manage many patients with endocrine disorders. The aim of the PG Diploma in Endocrinology course is to enhance the knowledge and confidence among healthcare professionals in the management of endocrine disorders through learning, case studies & discussions.

This program specifically focuses on the following topics:

- Disorders of the Hypothalamus and Pituitary
- Disorders of the Thyroid
- Disorders of the Adrenals
- Disorders of Parathyroids, Calcium and Bone
- Reproductive Endocrinology
- Endocrine Related Cancer



Postgraduate Diploma in Endocrinology, 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 (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 - Disorders of the Hypothalamus and Pituitary

Aims of the module:

• To explore the physiological concepts of hypothalamic pituitary axes, and specific hypothalamic and pituitary disorders.

Synopsis of the module Content

• Basic physiology of the hypothalamic-anterior pituitary-end organ axes with an understanding of the posterior pituitary & study of various pituitary hormones & their signals

• Hormonal signaling including intracrine, paracrine and endocrine effects together with second messenger effects

• Functional pituitary tumors - presentation, investigation and management including medical and surgical approaches, genetic disorders, growth hormone replacement therapy

• Use of various endocrine investigations for better disease interpretations

Module 2 - Disorders of the Thyroid

Aims of the module:

• To gain understanding of the physiology of the thyroid and its hormones to critical awareness of the diagnosis and management of disorders of the thyroid.

Synopsis of the module content:

• The physiology of the thyroid gland, understanding and management of Hypothyroidism, Hyperthyroidism & use of thionamides

Module 3 - Disorders of the Adrenals

Aims of the module:

• To give a critical understanding of the physiology and pathophysiology of the adrenal glands in to understand endocrine disorders of the adrenal glands.

Synopsis of the module content:

• Adrenal medulla and cortex (Physiology and pathophysiology, secretion)

• Adrenal hypersecretion & adrenal dependent Cushing's disease, diagnosis and management including medical and surgical Secondary hypogonadism

Module 4 - Disorders of Parathyroids, Calcium and Bone

Aims of the module:

• To impart knowledge for critical clinical decision-making skills in relation to the management of a variety of conditions affecting the adrenal glands.

Synopsis of the module content:



• The parathyroid glands
• Physiology, diagnosis & management of disorders:

  • Primary hyperparathyroidism
  • Secondary hyperparathyroidism
  • Tertiary hyperparathyroidism
  • Osteoporosis

Module 5 - Reproductive Endocrinology

Aims of the module:

• To develop an understanding of presentation, investigation, diagnosis and management of reproductive endocrine disorders.

Synopsis of the module content:

• Basic physiological principles of the ovaries and testes, understanding various Genetic disorders
• Epidemiology, diagnosis & management of Polycystic ovarian Syndrome
• Male & Female hypogonadism & understanding hormones like Testosterone

Module 6 - Endocrine Related Cancer

Aims of the module:

• To develop critical understanding of how endocrine related cancers present, how to investigate & manage them.

Synopsis of the module content:

- Epidemiology, understanding about thyroid cancer including follicular, medullary and anaplastic thyroid cancer
- Presentation, investigation and management of adrenal cancer Neuroendocrine tumors (NETs)

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%



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- Proof of English language proficiency
    - o 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.
    - 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)