MASTER IN MEDICINE/ 
POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MEDICINE

2017/2019

University of Dublin, Trinity College
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Introduction

These Master in Medicine / Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip) in Medicine courses are aimed at medical graduates in training who wish to develop their research skills, broaden their research interests, and develop advanced knowledge in selected areas of clinical and scientific practice. The courses will offer an opportunity for those entering higher medical training to develop good research practices in advance of undertaking an MD or PhD. In addition, they will also provide an opportunity for those not intending to complete higher medical training to undertake a period of formal academic activity and acquire formal (university degree level) recognition of these activities.

The courses are run part-time, over 2 calendar years. A one year (fulltime) option for each course is available for suitable applicants.

Aims of the Courses

The courses aim to equip students with the knowledge, skills and competence to:

- Work at an advanced level in clinical practice, and to develop and sustain evidence-based practice
- Understand the principles of health service management
- Communicate effectively with others and work as part of a team
- Formulate research hypotheses, design experimental studies and conduct research
- Statistically analyse data, write research reports and critically appraise research

In addition to obligatory “core” modules, students will be able to choose optional modules according to their chosen career pathway. The research project (Master in Medicine students only) will also reflect the students’ chosen career pathway
Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of the principles of health service management and be capable of incorporating these into clinical practice
- Critically appraise research data and write research reports
- Manage all aspects of patient care, including adverse outcomes, as part of a multidisciplinary healthcare team
- Evaluate the key concepts of global health and examine the major challenges affecting health systems and health outcomes globally
- Discuss the role of the doctor in the primary and secondary prevention of disease at population level
- Formulate research hypotheses, design experimental studies and conduct research in a scientific and ethical manner [dissertation module - Master in Medicine students only]

Intended Participants

Candidates must be

- medically qualified (MB, BCh, BAO or equivalent from a recognised medical school) and
- registered with the Medical Council of Ireland or equivalent overseas regulatory body

and should be

- at least 2 years post registration.

In addition each potential candidate will be required to attend for interview to assess his/her suitability for the course and to discuss their optional module preferences.

Application for admission to the course will be made on line. Check out:  
http://www.tcd.ie/courses/postgraduate/how-to-apply for full details.

Course Structure

All students must complete taught modules to the value of 60 ECT credits:  3 obligatory "core" modules (to the value of 20 ECTS credits) and “optional” modules to the value of 40 ECTS credits.
Students will choose the optional modules according to their chosen career pathway.

Modules will be offered generally in the format of a 2–3 day stand-alone programme for 5 ECTs modules and 4-5 day programmes for 10 ECTs modules.

The overall structure of the programme is outlined in Table 1.

Table 1: Course Modules for Master / PostGraduate Diploma in Medicine

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code*</th>
<th>Title of Module</th>
<th>ECTs credits</th>
<th>Core / Optional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CM8724</td>
<td>Professional and Ethical Practice of Medicine</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Core</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8XXX*</td>
<td>Biostatistics, Health Research Methods and Critical Appraisal</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Core</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8729</td>
<td>Patient Safety and Quality of Patient Care</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Core</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8XXX*</td>
<td>Implementation of healthcare systems</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8732</td>
<td>Global Health for Clinical Specialists</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8734</td>
<td>Teaching and Learning for Clinical Specialists</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM7010</td>
<td>Health Economics</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8735</td>
<td>Pharmacoepidemiology and Drug Safety</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8738</td>
<td>Clinical Skills for Clinical Specialists</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8739</td>
<td>Role of Biologics and Advanced Therapies in Clinical Practice</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8740</td>
<td>Developing and Prescribing Medicines for Special Populations</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8XXX*</td>
<td>Management of chronic disease and multi-morbidity in clinical practice</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8XXX*</td>
<td>Leadership skills for clinical specialists</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*represents a new module, code awaited

Part-time students will be expected to complete modules to the value of 30 ECTS credits during each academic year; this may be extended for one further year on a case-by-case basis, and with the approval of the course committee.

In addition to completion of the modules, the Master in Medicine students will be required to undertake a research project and submit a dissertation at the latest by the 31st August in the second year. An extension may be granted on a case-
by-case basis and with the approval of the course committee. The students may begin the initial preparatory work on their proposal for dissertation during year 1, in tandem with the taught modules, with the aim of achieving approval of the proposal by the course committee by the end of year 1. During year 2, the students may work on the organisational aspects (such as application for research ethics committee approval where appropriate), in tandem with the taught modules. Practical work on the research project (i.e. collection of research data) normally begins once all taught modules have been satisfactorily completed in year 2.

**Course Content and Timetable (2017/18)**

Both Master in Medicine and PGDip in Medicine students are required to successfully complete taught modules. Part-time students should have successfully completed modules to the value of 30 ECTS in order to progress to year 2 of the course. Fulltime students will need to complete all their taught modules (to the value of 60 ECTS) during this academic year in order to be eligible for the PGDip award or to progress to the dissertation module.

Table 2 outlines the timing of the course modules for 2017/8.
Table 2: Course Modules in Master / PostGraduate Diploma in Medicine: Provisional availability during 2017/18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code*</th>
<th>Title of Module (ECT credits)</th>
<th>Timing of delivery**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CM8XXX*</td>
<td>Biostatistics, Health Research Methods and Critical Appraisal (10)</td>
<td>Term 1 (13-17th Nov 2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8724</td>
<td>Professional and Ethical Practice of Medicine (5)</td>
<td>Term 2 (workshop – TBC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8729</td>
<td>Patient Safety and Quality of Patient Care (5)</td>
<td>Term 2 (22-23 Jan 2018)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8XXX*</td>
<td>Management of chronic disease and multi-morbidity in clinical practice (10)</td>
<td>Term 1 (9-12 Oct 2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8732</td>
<td>Global Health for Clinical Specialists (5)</td>
<td>Term 1 (13-15 Nov 2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8735</td>
<td>Pharmacoepidemiology and Drug Safety (5)</td>
<td>Term 1 (21 - 23 Nov 2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8739</td>
<td>Role of Biologicals and Advanced Therapies in Clinical Practice (5)</td>
<td>Term 1 (23-25 Nov 2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM7010</td>
<td>Health Economics (5)</td>
<td>Term 2 (29-30 Jan 2018)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8734</td>
<td>Teaching and Learning for Clinical Specialists (5)</td>
<td>Term 2 (February 2018 - TBC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8740</td>
<td>Developing and Prescribing Medicines for Special Populations (5)</td>
<td>Term 2 (26-28 March 2018)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8738</td>
<td>Clinical Skills for Clinical Specialists (5)</td>
<td>Term 1 (If sufficient students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8XXX*</td>
<td>Implementation of healthcare systems (5)</td>
<td>Term 2 (If sufficient students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM8XXX*</td>
<td>Leadership skills for clinical specialists (5)</td>
<td>Term 2 (If sufficient students)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Modules in bold represent the obligatory core module; TBC=to be confirmed

*represents a new module, code awaited;
**provisional timing as of 29th May 2017, subject to change;
*** online module plus one practical session

Dissertation (30 ECTS) – For Master in Medicine students only

Each student will also be required to undertake a research project and submit a dissertation at the latest by the 31st August in the second year. Typically the dissertation will take the form of an analysis of a data set collected by the student. The student may begin the initial work on his/her proposal for dissertation during year 1, in tandem with the taught modules, with the aim of achieving approval of the proposal by the course committee by the end of year 1. During year 2, the student may work on the organizational aspects (such as application for research ethics committee approval where appropriate), in tandem with the optional modules. Practical work on the research project will normally begin once the taught modules have been satisfactorily completed.
Fulltime Master in Medicine students will work on their research project in tandem with the taught modules. Practical work on the research project (i.e. collection of data) will normally begin once the taught modules have been satisfactorily completed in Year 1.

**Assessment**

Each module will be assessed by way of completion of written personal assignments during or after completion of the module, within an agreed timeframe. In addition, some of the modules may also be evaluated by way of a practical examination during or after completion of the module. The final mark for each module will be the average mark derived from each assessment type (i.e. personal assignments, or examination during or after completion of the module).

The dissertation should be 10,000 words long (excluding appendices) and should normally be submitted by no later than 31st August at the end of the second academic year for part-time students (31st August at the end of academic year for fulltime students). In addition the student will be encouraged to write up a scientific paper for publication, based on his/her research.

A 50% pass mark is required for each of the modules, and also for the dissertation. Students will be allowed to resubmit and/or repeat the examination on one occasion. Compensation *between optional modules only* may be possible (up to a total of 10% of marks) but students must have obtained at least 40% or more marks in the module. Compensation is not possible for the core modules or the dissertation; neither can they be used to compensate for any of the optional modules. The dissertation module must be passed in order for the student to be considered for an award of a Master in Medicine degree.

**Course Venue**

The modules will be run primarily in the Trinity Centre in St James’ Hospital (SJH). Some sessions may also be held in the Adelaide, Meath, National Children’s Hospital, Tallaght (AMNCH) and Trinity college main campus (in the Biomedical Sciences Institute (TBSI) and Lloyds Institute buildings).

**Course Materials**

Course materials will be made available for each module via the interactive Blackboard website. In addition, students will be provided with pre-module
reading before each of the taught modules. The students will be expected to review all material provided and to study the reading lists contained in the course materials. Personal assignments for each module must be completed by each student and returned within the designated timeframe. Late assignments will be subject to penalties.

Students will be expected to provide their own computer and online access for the modules and module documentation presented on the interactive Blackboard website.

**Tuition Fees**

**Part-time:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>EU</th>
<th>Non-EU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>€5,454</td>
<td>€11,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>€5,454</td>
<td>€11,150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fulltime**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>EU</th>
<th>Non-EU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€8,263</td>
<td>€16,263</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Fees shown represent the 2017/2018 rates.

**Further Information**

Contact the Course Co-ordinator (Dr Mary Teeling) at:

teelingm@tcd.ie

or

Phone: 00 353 1 4103671

Applications for this course should be made online.

Further information is available at:

http://www.tcd.ie/courses/postgraduate/how-to-apply

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