PROGRAMMES IN FAMILY MEDICINE

The department offers three part-time programmes in Family Medicine, a postgraduate diploma, an M.Sc and a DM. Candidates are normally first registered for the diploma (2 yrs) and on successful completion may progress to the MSc (1 additional year) and likewise to the DM (1 more year).

DIPLOMA IN FAMILY MEDICINE

The programme is based on the principles of primary care medicine and the widely recognised professional characteristics of the primary care physician. It takes into account the health care requirements of the population and expressed needs of the general practitioners in the Caribbean for further professional education and advancement.

OBJECTIVES

- To provide education and training in family medicine relevant to the needs of the Caribbean community.
- To stimulate the professional development of the general practitioners based on their existing experience, and to enhance their competence and ability to function effectively and efficiently as primary care physicians in the reformed health sector.
- To provide continuing education base for the development of a career structure for primary care physicians.

The programme is ideally suited for:

- Primary care physicians working in the public health care system.
- Recent graduates working in a primary care setting who are considering a career in full-time primary care.
- General practitioners who are interested in upgrading their skills.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR ENTRY

Candidates seeking entry to the Diploma programme in Family Medicine must possess an MBBS degree or equivalent from an approved university. In addition, applicants must have at least one year's clinical working experience, preferably in Primary Care.

STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME

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<th>Course</th>
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<tr>
<td>MEDC6511</td>
<td>Learning &amp; Teaching in Primary Care</td>
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<td>MEDC6521</td>
<td>Evidence Based Medicine Part I</td>
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<td>MEDC6512</td>
<td>The Consultation &amp; Communication</td>
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<td>MEDC6513</td>
<td>Medical Ethics &amp; Doctor and Patient Relationship</td>
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<td>MEDC6515</td>
<td>Health Promotion, Screening and Risk Management Issues in Primary Care</td>
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<td>MEDC6516</td>
<td>Health Care of the Elderly</td>
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<td>MEDC6517</td>
<td>Chronic Diseases in Primary Care</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>MEDC6522</td>
<td>Gender Issues in Health/Womenís Health</td>
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<td>MEDC6523</td>
<td>Sexualities and STD's</td>
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<td>MEDC6524</td>
<td>Child and Adolescent Health</td>
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<td>MEDC6529</td>
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WHO SHOULD CONSIDER THIS PROGRAMME?

- Primary care physicians working in the public health care system.
- Recent graduates working in a primary care setting who are considering a career in full-time primary care.
- General practitioners who are interested in upgrading their skills.

FINAL EXAMINATIONS

All modules are assessed via examinations, except MEDC 6511, 6512, 6513, 6515 and 6517 which are assessed on the basis of student presentations and course assignments. Final examinations will be held at the completion of 24 months and represents the period previously known as the Postgraduate Diploma in Primary Care and Family Medicine.

Students who have successfully completed all modules and accumulated the required module credits will be allowed to sit the final examination. The final student assessment will comprise:

- Review of the student Portfolio containing all modules - 30% of the final mark
- Assignments, reports and tutor comments
- Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) - 40% of the final mark;
- Written examination - 30% of the final mark.

To be successful, candidates are required to achieve a passing grade in all components of the examination. Further information can be obtained from the Family Medicine office.
MSC IN FAMILY MEDICINE
AIMS OF PROGRAMME
1. To train postgraduate students of medicine in a wide range of knowledge, skills and attitudes appropriate to the practice of Family Medicine in the Community;
2. To impart and enhance knowledge in the personal, family and social aspects of health, illness and disease;
3. To enhance professional competence, values and behaviours that are inherent to the discipline of Family Medicine;
4. To enhance the skills of critical reflection and assessment of professional activities, enabling them to meet the changing health needs of patients, families, and their communities, and the changing demands of health care in modern societies.
5. To promote skills in effective, continuing medical education, to revise past knowledge, and to keep abreast of advances in medical science and technology appropriate to primary care;
6. To enhance knowledge and skills in health promotion, disease prevention and risk management;
7. To eventually deliver such training through face to face and distance modes so as to cater for the educational needs of primary care physicians in the wider Caribbean.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR ENTRY
Candidates must have completed the Diploma in Family Medicine in order to proceed to the MSc programme. The programme is open to medical practitioners who have qualified from a recognised University and are registered for practice within the country in which the training occurs.

OUTLINE
Candidates are expected to complete the programme within 36 months (which includes the 24 months of the Diploma). In extreme individual circumstances, an extension of twelve months may be granted by the Faculty's Graduate Studies Subcommittee. During this time students are expected to undergo attachments to accredited family practice units and other approved clinical facilities. The MSc will be granted after a thesis proposal and presentation/defense, and successful completion of course work, written and clinical examinations.

Students are expected to register for the following core courses:
- Research Methodology (MEDC 6310)
- Statistics (MEDC 6120)

Optional Courses (students must do two of the following depending on availability)
1. Counseling Skills for Primary Care Physicians (MEDC 6600)
2. Procedural Skills for Primary Care Physicians - minor surgical skills
3. Management Skills for the Primary Care Physician
4. Teaching and Learning in the Health Professions - an extension of the 5-week programme offered during the Diploma.
5. Evidence-Based Medicine Part II (MEDC 6802) - an extension on the 10-week programme offered during the Diploma.

FINAL EXAMINATIONS
Students who have achieved pass marks for the coursework and the research project report will be allowed to undertake the final MSc examination. Student assessment will consist of:
- Module Examination Mark - 60% which consists of
- Research Proposal - 40% of the final mark
- Coursework - 20% of the final mark
- Written paper - 40% of the final mark

To be successful candidates are required to achieve a passing grade in all components of the assessment.

D.M (DOCTOR OF MEDICINE : FAMILY MEDICINE)
QUALIFICATIONS FOR ENTRY
Students will not be allowed to register for the DM in Family Medicine without first satisfactorily completing the MSc in Family Medicine.

OUTLINE
This requires a fourth year of work, i.e. one additional year after the MSc. In this year participants are usually required to complete their MSc proposal. Although clinical work is a required part of the DM year, the major task is the actual data collection, data analysis and defense of the project in the final examination. University requirements also allow for an in-depth case book of at least 12 cases to be presented for the DM.

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH)
AIMS AND OBJECTIVES
- To provide persons with the fundamental and critical skills for assessing community health problems and responding to public health challenges.
- To enable persons to use and apply principles, methods and analytical techniques of public health and allied disciplines for the improvement of population health and well-being.
- To enable persons to plan and manage public health programmes, develop and implement solutions to the public health problems, both within the context and settings of the Caribbean region and globally.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR ENTRY
To be admitted to the prescribed course of study for the degree of Master of Public Health (MPH) candidates must either:
- Be registered medical practitioners, dental surgeons, or veterinary surgeons, with at least three years professional experience preferably in Public Health after successfully completing the final examination in their discipline; or
- Be graduates of an approved university with at least three years of relevant practical experience; or
- Hold an approved technical or professional qualification awarded by an approved body and approved by this university and have had at least five years relevant practical experience; or
- Have in the opinion of the University, other qualifications of special relevance to the course and in the opinion of the University, have had at least five years of relevant practical experience.
COURSE OF STUDY
Candidates for the degree of Master of Public Health are required to follow the prescribed course of study by part-time attendance at the University for not less than two academic years and not more than four academic years. The required minimum time for completion of the degree of Master of Public Health is twenty-four (24) months.

Candidates may pursue studies over two to four academic years. Such candidates will need to organize their time and attendance schedules bearing in mind the usual times and offerings of courses.

Candidates for the degree of Master of Public Health are required to take core courses. Core courses provide fundamental instruction/training in the following areas:
- Biologic Basis of Health (required for students without a medical or related degrees) (0 credits)**
- Biostatistics * (with laboratory sessions) (4 credits)
- Research Methodology* (3 credits)
- Environmental Health and Occupational Health I
- (3 credits)
- Epidemiology I (General Principles and Methodological issues) (3 credits)
- Health Economics I (3 credits)
- Integrated Team Experience (3 credits)
- Social and Behavioural Sciences I (3 credits)

*Already being delivered at St. Augustine
** Self-study course with examination

Core credits = 22

Additionally, candidates are required to take some advanced and elective courses, the choice of being made with the approval of the Department after considering the candidate's background, and subject to the availability of the course. A minimum of 10 students are required for a course to be offered.

These courses include areas such as:
- Chronic Diseases Epidemiology (3 credits)
- Disaster Preparedness and Management (3 credits)
- Financial Management (3 credits)
- Health Communication (3 credits)
- Infectious Diseases Epidemiology (3 credits)
- Monitoring and Evaluation (3 credits)
- Nutrition and Dietetics (3 credits)
- Qualitative Research (3 credits)
- Seminar courses (3 credits)
- Health Economics II (3 credits)
- Environmental Health and Occupational Health II
- (3 credits)
- Environmental Toxicology (3 credits)

Candidates are required to take courses totaling not less than 37 credits hours and are also required to submit a project report based on research in a chosen aspect of public health approved by the Unit of Public Health and Primary Care (see below). Further details regarding courses related to the degree programmes may be obtained from the department.

Candidates pursuing the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree are attached to a health or other institution approved by the Specialty Board for a period of six weeks during the 3rd semester of year 2, thereby fulfilling their field placement requirements (3 credits).

After completing the field placement, each candidate is required to submit a satisfactory report describing the experience, including engagement and work process; problems, challenges and strengths identified; solutions recommended, developed or implemented; lessons derived and insights gained.

The course of study for the Master of Public Health Degree includes supervised research work or applied practice cumulating in the submission of a project report. The topic and research/practice area should be of public health relevance and must be approved by the student's supervisor. The report should provide evidence of the student's ability to effectively review relevant literature, to undertake independent research/practice, to analyze data, and to present and discuss findings in a systematic and scholarly form. The project report should be of a satisfactory literary standard. The project report should not exceed 20,000 words and must follow the University's Guide for the preparation of Theses, Research Papers, and Project Reports (15 credits). This work will be examined by the external examiner.

The entire MPH course is under the general supervision of a coordinator nominated by the Unit and Deputy Dean for Graduate Studies and the Deans of the Faculty of Medical Sciences and Faculty of Science and Agriculture or persons nominated by them.

REGULATIONS AND ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES
All Regulations and Assessment Procedures must be consistent with those provided in the University of the West Indies General Regulations for Postgraduate Degrees and Diplomas. Candidates must complete all modules to be eligible for the final exam. Candidates must pass all individual components of the final exam to be granted the degree of the MPH.

Course Load/Semester: Part-Time/ Full-Time
There will be 3 courses per semester and 3 semesters per year for 2 years part-time. Courses will be delivered 3 evenings per week from 4-7 pm for 10-13 weeks. Classes will also be held on Saturdays. Seminar series will require Sunday attendance. In order to qualify to sit the end of semester module examinations students must attend at least 75% of classes in each module.

Number of Failures per Semester
No more than 1 failure per semester is permissible, subject to review by the Board of Graduate Studies and Research.
Re-Sit Examinations
Re-sit examination must be completed by the second week of the semester following that in which a candidate has failed one course.
No candidate will be permitted to repeat the examination in any one course on more than one occasion unless the Board of Graduate Studies and Research in any particular case otherwise decides.

Assessment procedures for courses, coursework, fieldwork, internships or other Modules will be assessed by coursework and a written exam set and coordinated by the course coordinator. Continuous review and assessment of the candidate’s performance is carried out and recorded every four months by his/her supervisor. Where assessments are found to be unsatisfactory, the Specialty Board may recommend one or more of the following:
- Counseling
- Remedial work
- Repeating unsatisfactory work
- Withdrawal from the course, if poor performance persists.

Fieldwork will be assessed by a report by the supervisor of the student, and a student report. After completing the field placement, each candidate is required to submit a satisfactory report describing the experience, including engagement and work process; problems, challenges and strengths identified; solutions recommended, developed or implemented; lessons derived and insights gained. For those individuals who only complete an enhanced report in lieu of a research project, this will be examined by the external examiner.

There will be a final exam consisting of 3 papers as now pertains in Mona. Candidates failing in a part of the examination may be referred in that part and may be re-examined in that part at the next opportunity, which will normally be one year later unless special re-sit examinations have been scheduled.

Assessment procedures for Research Project
These will be assessed in 2 stages, first at the end of year 1 when the preliminary report on the proposal for the study is done and secondly on completion and write up of the report at the end of the second year. This project/report will be examined by an external examiner.

Time limits for completion
Research projects can be extended to a maximum of 1 year beyond the student’s final exam. Students are expected to complete the MPH within 4 years.

DEPARTMENT OF CLINICAL MEDICAL SCIENCES
The Department of Clinical Medical offers an MSc in Clinical Psychology and DM programmes in Internal Medicine, Paediatrics, Psychiatry and Radiology.

The DMI Internal Medicine
INTRODUCTION:
The Doctorate in Internal Medicine (DM (Med.) or DM) is one component of a wider graduate programme in Internal Medicine (internal Medicine) delivered by the Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of the West Indies, St. Augustine. The full range of options for training in Internal Medicine includes:
1. The D.M. programme in Internal Medicine - consisting of a full 4-year residency, including an optional elective period of one year. This programme is also offered at our sister Campuses, Mona, Jamaica and Cave Hill Barbados.
2. Modules in Internal Medicine - Practitioners from specialties outside Internal Medicine are allowed to access individual modules of the programme if desired (“selectives”).

These programmes target doctors who have obtained an undergraduate degree in Medicine from a recognised University, and who have successfully completed their pre-registration training and are about to embark upon postgraduate training.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES
1. The aim of the D.M. in Internal Medicine is to train doctors in the specialty of Internal Medicine to a level that allows them to provide clinical support and administrative leadership to their Medicine Departments. Successful D.M. candidates will practice at the level of consultants in (General) Medicine. The D.M. programme will accept candidates at House Officer level with minimal experience in Internal Medicine and achieve the above goal within the four-year training period.
2. To ensure that participants have an appreciation of personnel management, adult learning techniques, disaster management, financial management and quality assurance (including clinical and non-clinical audit).
3. To promote a culture of continuing professional development among Internists. This would include the use of Evidence Based Medicine, the production and maintenance of personal portfolios and fostering reflective learning in clinical practice.
4. To create a cadre of appropriately trained and certified Internists in Trinidad and Tobago, to fulfill local and regional needs.
5. To define, regulate and monitor standards related to the certification of individuals involved in the provision of medical care in Trinidad and Tobago and the region.
6. To encourage participants to develop a specialty interest.