

MSc Internal Medicine

APPLICATION HANDBOOK 2018/19



Courses:

Postgraduate Certificate in Internal Medicine

Postgraduate Diploma in Internal Medicine

Master of Science in Internal Medicine

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Introduction

The Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert), Diploma (PGDip) and Masters (MSc) in Internal Medicine have been developed as part of the Clinical Specialties Programme within Brighton and Sussex Medical School and are jointly validated by the University of Brighton and the University of Sussex. The courses are designed for part-time or full-time study to meet the educational needs of medical trainees interested in a career in Internal Medicine.

The course has been designed to take into account the professional and academic development of senior internal medicine specialists and to provide a rounded education which includes current advances in medical sciences and their application in clinical practice. This increased scientific awareness of pathophysiological processes will prepare Medical Trainees for advanced practice and senior clinical posts in the future.

Aims and Learning Outcomes for the Course

Aims

The aims of the course are:

- To provide Medical Trainees with advanced education in order to equip them to be capable, informed and creative consultants of the future.
- To provide learning and insights into advanced professional practice in Medicine – many of which are not normally included in standard Medical Training.
- To prepare Medical Trainees to be research aware and research active.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the MSc programme students will be able to demonstrate:

- Demonstrate an advanced understanding of “Intensive Medicine”, including both the pathophysiology of common conditions which result in severe life threatening illness, and the modern management of these problems, along with a systematic understanding of intensive care medicine and the pathophysiology underlying severe illness (MDM168).
- Demonstrate an in depth advanced understanding of the principles of autoimmune processes and their application across various medical specialties in clinical practice (MDM166).
- Demonstrate an advanced, in-depth awareness and understanding of infection and be able to provide appropriate solutions or actions to deal with those (MDM167).
- Demonstrate an advanced knowledge of the emerging concept of “Frailty”, along with a comprehensive, contemporary understanding of how it is defined, measured and how it is used in research and clinical practice (MDM169).

- Analyse and synthesise data from a wide variety of sources to inform evidence-based practice in Internal Medicine (all modules).
- Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of research methods and critical appraisal (MDM10).
- Evidence a critical understanding of the organisational and policy context and the drivers for change that enable clinicians to contribute more effectively to improving the design, delivery, outcomes and cost effectiveness of services (MDM110).
- Display an advanced level of understanding of communication and teaching in relation to patients and colleagues of all levels (MDM122).
- Identify a research question, plan, and conduct and report/publish a research project in their chosen area of Internal Medicine (MDM164)

Entry Requirements

This course will be open primarily to Internal Medical Trainees who have completed Part I MRCP – or – or equivalent post-graduate professional qualification. Applications will also be considered from those that have an equivalent level of experience and qualification.

All applications will be subject to the University Equal Opportunities Policy. Applications are welcomed from International Students with appropriate qualifications and experience. Students for whom English is not a first language must demonstrate an acceptable standard of comprehension and communication in the English Language (IELTS: minimum overall score of 7.0 and 7.0 for the writing element).

Where necessary, applicants may enrol in an English Pre-session course which takes place before admission to the MSc Course.

Claims for the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) will be considered.

There will be an Induction Day on Wednesday 12th September 2018 for all successful applicants and you are strongly recommended to attend.

Course Structure

The academic standard is the same for each of the three awards (PGCert, PGDip and MSc) as they are all taught at Postgraduate (M/7) level. The difference lies in the number of modules taken and, for the MSc, the completion of a dissertation. Successful completion of the Certificate, Diploma and MSc require 60, 120 and 180 credits respectively (one module is worth 20 credits).

To achieve the PGCert Internal Medicine award, students are required to undertake three out of four modules: MDM166, MDM167, MDM168 and MDM169 Internal Medicine modules and Research methods MDM10.

PGDip students are required to undertake the three Internal Medicine content modules and three professional content modules (MDM10, MDM110 and MDM122).

MSc students are required to undertake the three Internal Medicine content modules and three professional content modules. In addition, students are required to undertake a 60 credit dissertation module, culminating in a 12,000 word dissertation with poster.

If students gain credits for the three professional modules (MDM10, MDM110 and MDM122) they can exit with a PGCet Clinical Professional Studies award.

Postgraduate Certificate Internal Medicine (60 credits):

Module	Status
Three out of four of the following Core Clinical Modules:	
MDM166 Auto-Immunity	Optional (20 credits)
PLUS/OR	
MDM167 Infectious Diseases and HIV Medicine	Optional (20 credits)
PLUS/OR	
MDM168 Intensive Medicine	Optional (20 credits)
PLUS/OR	
MDM169 Frailty and Elderly Medicine	Optional (20 credits)
OR	
Two Clinical Modules and MDM10 Research Methods and Critical Appraisal.	

Postgraduate Diploma Internal Medicine (120 credits):

Module	Status
Three or four of the following Core Clinical Modules:	
MDM166 Auto-Immunity	Optional (20 credits)
PLUS/OR	
MDM167 Infectious Diseases and HIV Medicine	Optional (20 credits)
PLUS/OR	
MDM168 Intensive Medicine	Optional (20 credits)
PLUS/OR	
MDM169 Frailty and Elderly Medicine	Optional (20 credits)
PLUS	
MDM10 Research Methods & Critical Appraisal	Compulsory (20 credits)
PLUS at least ONE of the following Core Professional Modules:	
MDM110 Leadership and Change Management in Clinical Services	Optional (20 credits)
PLUS/OR	
MDM122 Communication, Learning & Teaching in Health & Social Care	Optional (20 credits)

Masters in Internal Medicine (180 credits)

Module	Status
Three or four of the following Core Clinical Modules:	
MDM166 Auto-Immunity	Optional (20 credits)
PLUS/OR	
MDM167 Infectious Diseases and HIV Medicine	Optional (20 credits)
PLUS/OR	
MDM168 Intensive Medicine	Optional (20 credits)
PLUS/OR	
MDM169 Frailty and Elderly Medicine	Optional (20 credits)
PLUS	
MDM10 Research Methods & Critical Appraisal	Compulsory (20 credits)
PLUS at least ONE of the following Core Professional Modules:	
MDM110 Leadership and Change Management in Clinical Services	Optional (20 credits)
PLUS/OR	
MDM122 Communication, Learning & Teaching in Health & Social Care	Optional (20 credits)
PLUS	
MDM164 Dissertation	Compulsory (20 credits)

Postgraduate Certificate Clinical Professional Development (60 credits)

Module	Status
MDM110 Leadership and Change Management in Clinical Services PLUS	Compulsory (20 credits)
MDM122 Communication, Learning & Teaching in Health & Social Care PLUS	Compulsory (20 credits)
MDM10 Research Methods & Critical Appraisal	Compulsory (20 credits)

Module Descriptions

Autoimmunity (MDM166)

The module aims to achieve an advanced level of understanding of auto-immunity at a molecular level and apply this systematically to a wide variety of diseases across several medical specialties. It will explore the rationale underpinning different therapeutic strategies, including the use of biologic agents. The module will develop students' critical reasoning to a high level through case analysis incorporating both individual student presentation and group problem solving. The aim of the module is to provide students with in depth advanced understanding of the principles of autoimmune processes and their application across various medical specialties in clinical practice.

Infectious Diseases and HIV (MDM167)

This module aims to introduce students to Infectious Diseases and HIV Medicine, building on their previous learning and clinical experience. Pathology, diagnostic issues, and clinical practice, both in the West and resource-poor communities are included in the module.

Intensive Medicine (MDM168)

This module focuses on "Intensive Care Medicine", exploring both the pathophysiology of common conditions which result in severe life threatening illness, and the modern management of these problems. The module will pay specific attention to what is different about treating illness in an Intensive Care setting and on the wards, and focus on ethical aspects of treatment. Simulation of various scenarios will explore the team-working, leadership and technical and organisational skills needed to work in an Intensive Care environment.

This module aims to provide an advanced understanding of "intensive medicine", including both the pathophysiology of common conditions which result in severe life threatening illness, and the modern management of these problems.

Frailty and Elderly Medicine (MDM169)

This module aims to introduce students to the emerging concept of "Frailty", to give them a thorough, contemporary understanding of how it is defined, measured and how it is used in research and clinical practice.

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Research Methods and Critical Appraisal (MDM10)

The module aims to provide students with an understanding of how to use evidence in their specialist area. It aims to provide students with an understanding of research methods in health and social care and the ability to relate appropriate methods to research questions. Students will be equipped to search and critically review the literature, to develop and justify a research proposal, and to anticipate potential ethical issues in their research proposals.

Leadership and Change Management in Clinical Services (MDM110)

This module aims to provide an overarching understanding of the organisational context for change in health & care service settings to enable managers, practitioners and professionals to contribute more effectively to leading and improving the design of service models and new organisational bodies, and to the delivery, cost effectiveness and outcomes of services.

Communication, Learning and Teaching in Health and Social Care (MDM122)

This module aims to facilitate the development of practitioners as communicators and educators, promoting the development of knowledge, skills, attitudes and practices of a competent clinical practitioner.

TEACHING DATES WILL BE PUBLISHED IN MAY 2018.

MDM164 Dissertation

The Dissertation is an opportunity for students to research, in depth, a topic of their own choosing in Internal Medicine. The initial preparation for this begins in the Research Methods & Critical Appraisal module, where students will develop a research proposal. Students attend a Dissertation Day to help prepare them in the development of their Dissertation Proposal submission. This aims to assist them in clarifying their research question and matching methods; to identify any ethical issues to be addressed and any approvals which may be required; and to assist them in the completion of the application form. Additional workshops are laid on regularly in specific aspects of research methods – e.g. interviewing, focus groups, data analysis, systematic reviews, obtaining informed consent, etc. – in order to provide practical skills training to equip students for the conduct of their research project.

Timetable

A complete list of the modules and the dates they are scheduled to run will be available from June. Please contact the Programme Administrator for further information

Fees

For fee enquiries please contact fees@brighton.ac.uk or telephone: **01273 642449**.

Teaching Staff

Academic staff from Brighton and Sussex Medical School and other faculties in the Universities of Brighton and Sussex are involved in the provision of teaching in a modular format, at Masters level. Specialist teaching is provided by consultants, specialists and other clinical staff from Trusts and organisations in and around the region. The extensive contribution of expert practitioners to the teaching of the modules is a distinctive feature of courses at Brighton and Sussex Medical School.

Teaching and Learning Methods

Teaching methods encompass lectures, whole group discussions, small group discussions, critical appraisal workshops, individual project work, simulations (including cadaveric surgery and mock courtroom testimony), 'TED' Talks and individual tutorials.

Maintaining employment throughout the course ensures the transfer of knowledge and skills from the course into the workplace.

As with all Masters courses, there is a considerable degree of independent study. Classroom based learning will constitute approximately 20% of total learning hours with the remaining 80% hours made up of independent learning.

Assessment

MDM168 Intensive Medicine

A 3,000 word essay demonstrating (by reference to their clinical practice) how their knowledge gained in the module has contributed to their understanding of intensive medical care

MDM166 Auto-Immunity

A 90 minute unseen examination and a 2000 word essay

MDM167 Infectious Diseases and HIV Medicine

A 3,000 word essay supported by reference to research evidence and up-to-date literature

MDM169 Frailty and Elderly Medicine

A 3,000 word essay demonstrating (by reference to their clinical practice) understanding of patients' frailty status and the management of their care.

MDM10 Research Methods & Critical Appraisal

A 3,000 word assignment

MDM110 Leadership and Change Management in Clinical Services

3,000 word critically reflective assignment on an aspect of Leading and Transforming services.

MDM122 Communication, Learning & Teaching in Health & Social Care

A 15 -minute learning session which will be recorded and uploaded onto a web-sharing site. This recorded session then forms the basis of a 2, 500-word critical analysis and reflection of this communication, teaching and learning session,

For the **MDM164 Dissertation**, the assessment is made up of two components: a 12,000 word dissertation (worth 80% of the total marks), and a research poster (worth 20% of the total marks).

How to Apply

Please apply online via the following link: <http://www.bsms.ac.uk/postgraduate/apply-now>

If you have any further questions please contact the Programme Administrator via the email address on the cover page.