

# **THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG**

## **Infectious Disease Courses, Certificate in Infectious Diseases (CertID) and Postgraduate Diploma in Infectious Diseases (PDipID), 2019-2021**

<h3><b>QUOTABLE QUALIFICATION THE MEDICAL COUNCIL OF HONG KONG</b></h3>
---

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMMES**

The number of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases has been rapidly increasing in the past decades. Clinical problems arising from this trend have come down to the level of every clinical specialty. Many such problems arise as complications of the patients' underlying medical or surgical illnesses and their treatment. The management of infectious diseases is now more than merely prescribing antibiotics; other modalities of management including active and passive immunization, the use of immunomodulators, and infection control measures, are of increasing importance. Currently, there are no formal postgraduate courses in Hong Kong on this branch of clinical medicine and microbiology, and there are no structured training programmes for postgraduates for MRCP and FRCS trainees in clinical infectious diseases. It is, therefore, timely for a Diploma programme to be run for the clinicians of Hong Kong. In part, this course is initiated to foster postgraduate training in the field of infectious diseases and clinical microbiology for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and China.

The purpose of the programmes is to provide understanding of, and practical experience in infectious diseases management for physicians, surgeons, clinical microbiologists, other clinicians and health care workers who are actively involved in the daily management of patients suffering from infectious diseases. Special emphasis would be put on those infections that are major health problems locally or globally.

The contents of the programmes include:

- a. The clinical approach to bedside problems, the understanding of the pathogenic microbes, and the reaction of the host in the pathogenesis of infectious diseases.
- b. The laboratory resources used to solve the problems arising from the bedside.
- c. The epidemiological approach to tackle outbreaks of infectious diseases.

## **ORGANISING INSTITUTIONS**

The programme is organised by the Carol Yu Centre for Infection, and members of the Departments of Microbiology, Medicine, Surgery, Paediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, The University of Hong Kong, and the Department of Health, HKSAR.

## **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

To be eligible for admission to the curriculum leading to the Postgraduate Diploma in Infectious Diseases, a candidate:

- a) shall comply with the General Regulations;
- b) shall comply with the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
- c) shall hold the degree of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery of this University, or a degree or other qualification of equivalent standard from another university or comparable institution accepted for this purpose; and
- d) shall satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination, if required
- e) for a candidate who is seeking admission on the basis of a qualification from a university or comparable institution outside Hong Kong of which the language of teaching and/or examination is not English, shall satisfy the University English language requirement applicable to high degrees as prescribed under General Regulation G2(b).

An application for exemption from the above requirements shall be considered on a case by case basis.

## **STRUCTURE OF THE COURSES**

### **Duration of the Postgraduate Diploma Programme**

The curriculum shall normally extend over two academic years of part-time study. Candidates shall not be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of registration of four academic years of part-time study, unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of the Faculty.

### **Method of Instruction**

- a) **Lectures:** Six 2-day weekend courses (each of at least 10 hours)
- b) **Clinical attachment:** 2 Bedside Infectious Diseases Consultations; 1 Clinical Microbiology Laboratory Round; 3 Infectious Diseases Rounds & 2 presentations (1 case presentation + 1 project presentation).
- c) **Project**
- d) **Literature review**

English will be the medium of instruction.

### **Programme Content**

Lectures will cover a wide range of topics in various fields of infectious diseases. The themes of the courses include (topics may be revised in future):

COURSE 1 – INFECTIOUS DISEASES UPDATE AND EMERGING INFECTIONS

COURSE 2 – INFECTIOUS DISEASE EMERGENCIES, INDWELLING DEVICE AND SURGICAL INFECTIONS

COURSE 3 - COMMON PROBLEMS IN INFECTIOUS DISEASES

COURSE 4 – RADIOLOGY, AND RADIONUCLIDE IMAGING IN ID, GENITOURINARY MEDICINE AND HIV PROBLEMS

COURSE 5 - SURPRISES IN DAILY MEDICAL PRACTICE: TROPICAL DISEASES IN THE DEVELOPED WORLD

COURSE 6 - INFECTIONS IN IMMUNOCOMPROMISED HOSTS AND COMMON INFECTIVE PROBLEMS IN GENERAL PRACTICE

## **Assessment of Postgraduate Diploma**

1. Format of continuous assessment  
Performance of the Diploma candidates in the quizzes, clinical attachment, literature review and project will be the basis of assessment.
2. Clinical Attachment  
Candidates will be divided into groups of 2 to 4. Each candidate will spend 60 hours of clinical attachment within an assigned period of 3 months. The attachment would be in the format of the following 4 items.
  - a) **Three Friday Infectious Diseases (ID) Rounds**  
Each candidate has to attend 3 ID rounds (Friday morning 10 am to 12 noon, Room 405, Department of Microbiology, 4/F, Clinical Pathology Building, Queen Mary Hospital) in the assigned period of 3 months.  
(Link to map: <http://www3.ha.org.hk/qmh/qmfloorplan.htm>)
  - b) **Presentations**  
One case presentation and a presentation on the completed project are required. The presentations will be conducted during the Friday ID round. The project presentation should include the background, study objectives, methodology, results and discussion.  
  
Submission of PowerPoint files presented at Friday ID Rounds  
Soft copy of the presented PowerPoint files MUST be sent to course secretariat for record after your presentation.
  - c) **Two Bedside Infectious Diseases (ID) Consultations**  
Candidates are required to follow 2 sessions of ID consultations with his/her supervisor. The purpose is to learn the clinical format and skill in managing hospitalized patients with ID. The exact date of bedside consultations will be decided among the candidates and their supervisor.
  - d) **One Clinical Microbiology Laboratory Rounds**  
Each candidate has to attend 1 Clinical Microbiology Laboratory Round. It consists of laboratory tour and demonstration of some commonly used laboratory techniques. This is intended to provide the candidate with exposure to some common tests (e.g. Gram stain, bacterial cultures) conducted in the microbiology laboratory. Students should contact individual supervisors for arrangement of laboratory round in advance.
3. Project  
A clinical and/or laboratory surveillance project (at least 2000 words) should be conducted over a period of at least 3 months within the candidate's own hospital or practice so that the candidate can understand the skills of epidemiological surveys. The candidate is responsible for working out the exact topic and study population with his/her supervisor.
4. Literature review of important topics in ID  
Each candidate is required to write a literature review on a topic concerning infectious diseases or clinical microbiology. The candidate has to perform a literature search and extensively review all the relevant medical publications and submit ONE signed hard copy and one soft copy of a comprehensive

summary of at least 1500 words (word count does not include reference list) before the deadline.

### **Assessment of Certificate of Infectious Diseases**

The whole Certificate programme consists of six courses. There will be a quiz after completion of each course. The performance of these quizzes will constitute the basis for assessment.

### **Award of Diploma**

The Postgraduate Diploma in Infectious Diseases will be conferred by the University to the candidates who have attended all the courses, and performed satisfactorily in the programme assessment including clinical attachment and multiple choice examinations, as well as project dissertation.

### **Award of Certificate of Infectious Diseases**

The Certificate of Infectious Diseases will be awarded by the Department to the candidates who have attended all the six courses.

### **Award of Attendance Certificate**

A certificate of attendance will be issued to candidates on completion of each two-day course.

#### *CME Point Accreditation*

Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists: 10.25 per course  
Hong Kong College of Community Medicine: 10 per course  
College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong: 10.5 per course  
Hong Kong College of Emergency Medicine: 10 per course  
Hong Kong College of Family Physicians: 10 per course  
Hong Kong College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists: 5 per course  
College of Ophthalmologists of Hong Kong: 4 per course  
Hong Kong College of Orthopaedic Surgeons: 8 per course  
Hong Kong College of Otorhinolaryngologists: 5.5 per course  
Hong Kong College of Paediatricians: 4 per course  
Hong Kong College of Pathologists: 10.5 per course  
Hong Kong College of Physicians: 4 per course  
The Hong Kong College of Psychiatrists: 10 per course  
Hong Kong College of Radiologists: 10 per course  
The College of Surgeons of Hong Kong: 10 per course  
Department of Health, Hong Kong Doctor Union, Hong Kong Academy of Medicine and Hong Kong Medical Association: 1 point for each hour of completed course

Remark: Subject to approval by Hong Kong Academy of Medicine and Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, HKU

## **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

### **Postgraduate Diploma in Infectious Diseases**

Applicants for the Diploma programme must be medically qualified and preferably with one year of postgraduate experience in the field of internal medicine, surgery, orthopaedics, obstetrics and gynaecology, or clinical microbiology. Candidates who have a postgraduate qualification, e.g. MRCP, FRCS, will be given priority to enroll.

Applicants must have registration with the Medical Council of Hong Kong.

Diploma candidates should refer to the website of Admissions and Academic Liaison Section at: <http://www.aal.hku.hk/tpg/programme/postgraduate-diploma-infectious-diseases> for the University's requirement and other information.

### **Courses/ Certificate in Infectious Diseases**

All medical or nursing graduates or other health care/science workers are eligible to take individual course(s). Nurses, pharmacists, laboratory technicians, etc, and those medical doctors and healthcare workers of the HKU-Shenzhen Hospital are eligible for the enrollment of the Certificate in Infectious Diseases. It is a 2-year part-time certificate course which consists of six two-day courses.

### **Fees**

For attendees of individual courses, who are not taking the Diploma programme, the fee for each course is HK\$1,000. The tuition fee for the Certificate Course is HK\$5,400. The provisional Diploma programme fee in 2019-2021 rate (including all six courses) is HK\$28,000 (subject to the University's approval).

### **On-line application**

<http://www.aal.hku.hk/tpg/programme-list-1920>