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**Laptop for PG trainees going abroad**

The Director/PGIM' s vision is for every postgraduate to carry his/her own laptop. This futuristic goal is to become a reality. The Book Allowance (US\$1000) for those going abroad has now been accepted as applicable for purchase of a laptop/CD books/ etc. if the PG trainees so desires. This is applicable from immediate effect.

We are looking into creating a WiFi area in our rooftop project, for student relaxation/studies/ instant connectivity.

**Work permit Issue in UK.....**

Please be informed that the UK Home Office has now confirmed that from 02/04/2007 Work Permit will be issued under TWES/MTI-1 category to PGIM recommended trainees. The NHS Trust Fund and Deaneries have been informed. The PGIM stipend of UK £1000 is now accepted as sufficient for the 40 hour week. The NHS Trust will pay for additional hours of work. This new arrangement was made possible due to the efforts of Professor Rezvi Sheriff, Director/PGIM and Mr.Sudantha Ganegama Arachchi, Deputy High Commissioner, SLHC, London. Director is continuing discussions with UK authorities to sort out necessary documentations.

(Further clarifications regarding this issue can be obtained from Mr.Kapila Gunasinghe, Assistant Registrar-International Division, Exam branch, PGIM; TP: 0112696258, e mail [kapilagunasingha@yahoo.com](mailto:kapilagunasingha@yahoo.com) or [examinat@sltnet.lk](mailto:examinat@sltnet.lk))

**Diploma in Sports Medicine...**



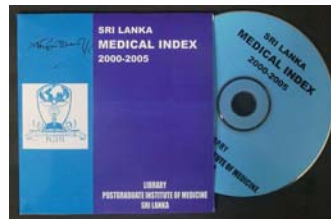
Inauguration ceremony of the Diploma in Sports Medicine Course was held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2007, at the Auditorium of PGIM. Professor T. Hettiaracchi, Vice Chancellor of the University of Colombo was the Chief Guest. Welcome address was made by Professor

Rezvi Sheriff, Director PGIM. Professor Rohan Jayasekara - Chairman, Curriculum Development Sub Committee (CDSC), Sports Medicine, gave an introduction of the course. Other speeches were made by the Guest of Honour Mr. Nalin Attygalle - Chairman of National Sports Council, the Chief Guest and the Secretary Dr.Lalith Wijeratne. Prof.Carlo Fonseka and Dr. Thurairajah also spoke.

Twenty doctors were selected out of eighty who have applied, from the selection examination for the first batch. The establishment of the Diploma Course in Sports Medicine would undoubtedly be beneficial to sportsmen and women of the country. The PGIM feels proud of introducing this important section of health service to the nation.



A press conference was organized by the PGIM regarding "Inauguration of the Diploma in Sports Medicine" on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2007 at the PGIM.



**Sri Lanka Medical Index**

"Sri Lanka Medical Index 2000-2005", is now available in the PGIM library for use of medical researchers. It

is the printed output of a cumulative database maintained at the PGIM library which is being updated on a regular basis. This index is an up-to-date record of health related literature in Sri Lanka inclusive of contributions by Sri Lankans abroad. This was compiled by Mr.D.Gunasekara, Senior Assistant Librarian of the PGIM. PGIM is also planning to extend this effort and have comprehensive Sri Lanka Medical Index inclusive of bibliography of previous publications on CD format. Subsequent issues will be published on annual basis, inclusive of abstracts of documents in subsequent issues of this index.

This index comprises of 4 sections, subject section which functions as the main file, author, title and subject indexes. Main file is arranged under main subject descriptions in alphabetical order.

### Asia Pacific Medical Education Conference in Singapore

Professor Rezvi Sheriff, Director/PGIM attended the 4<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Medical Education Conference (Feb 8–11) on “Outcomes in Medical Education” which was held in Singapore.



### Examinations Results - 2007

Exam Date	Examination	No. Sat	No. Passed	% Passed
	MD Part 2			
08/01/2007	MD (Pathology) Haematology	12	8	66.7
08/01/2007	MD Dermatology	10	7	70
08/01/2007	MD Obstetrics & Gynaecology	16	16	100
16/01/2007	MD Family Medicine	3	3	100
16/01/2007	MD Medical Microbiology	6	5	83.3
16/01/2007	MD Medical Parasitology	3	3	100
16/01/2007	Ophthalmology Module IV	5	3	60
16/01/2007	MD Psychiatry	16	11	68.8
18/01/2007	MS Orthodontics	3	3	100
22/01/2007	MD Paediatrics	24	11	45.8
22/01/2007	MS Restorative Dentistry	1	1	100
05/02/2007	MS Surgery	28	19	67.9
13/02/2007	MD Medicine	43	13	30.2
05/03/2007	MD Anaesthesiology	22	16	72.7
	Diploma			
30/01/2007	Diploma in Hospital Dental Practice	15	15	100
12/03/2007	Diploma in Transfusion Medicine	9	7	77.8

### “Critical Care Medicine” a new speciality....”

PGIM has planned to start a Diploma Course in Critical Care Medicine, in order to improve knowledge & clinical skills on critical care among medical officers. This will automatically contribute to enhance the intensive care practice throughout the country. It will also provide an opportunity for medical officers engaged in intensive care services to obtain a formal recognition & training. Board of Study in Anaesthesia and Board of Study in Medicine have shown a strong interest in initiating this course. The initial meeting of stakeholders was organized by the MERC, PGIM on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2007 to discuss matters related to its curriculum, entry requirements, screening & evaluation, structure & duration.

A member to represent each Board of Study was invited for the meeting. Prof. Rezvi Sheriff, Director PGIM chaired this Inaugural Meeting. Presentations were made by Prof.Chula Goonasekara (Chairman of CDSC) and Dr.Aruna Munasinghe. Prof. Rezvi Sheriff opened the meeting for discussion. A Curriculum Development Sub Committee was appointed to develop the course further. The members of CDSC are Prof. Rezvi Sheriff, Prof.Chula Goonasekara, Dr.Anuja Abaydeera, Dr.Ariyarani Gnanathan, Dr.Srilal De Silva, Dr.Senaka Rajapakse, Dr.Neelika Karunaratne, Dr.Aloka Pathirana, Dr.R.P.Dayasena, Dr.Ajanthan, Dr.G. Subasinghe, Prof.Ravindra Fernando, Prof.Rohan Jayasekara, Prof.Rohini De A. Seneviratne and Dr.Harsha Ediriweera. This committee is planning to have an ‘e group’ for communication once a month and a meeting in PGIM once in 4-6 months. Director PGIM informed the committee members that this programme should take off the ground by early 2008.

### MSc in Toxicology

Preliminary meeting to setup MSc course in Clinical Toxicology was held on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2007, at PGIM Director’s room. Director, PGIM chaired the meeting. At the meeting objectives and plan of the development of the course were discussed. Professor Ravindra Fernando tabled suggested prospectus in MSc of Medical Toxicology. It is plan to carry out a programme using blended learning techniques including workshops, lecture discussions and distance education in addition to face to face. The initial members participating in the discussion were Professor Ravindra Fernando- Senior Professor of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology, Professor Andrew Dawson- Director SACTRC, Dr. Ariarane Gnanathan, Dr. Priyadarshani Galappaththi and representatives from PGIM (Exam branch, Academic branch, MERC). It is likely to be structured to as Certificate/Diploma/MSc to be flexible and user friendly.

At the initial meeting a Curriculum Development Sub Committee (CDSC) was formed to develop this study course further. Members of the CDSC are Professor Rezvi Sheriff- Director, PGIM, Professor Ravindra Fernando (Chairman), Professor Andrew Dawson, Dr. Ariarane Gnanathan, Dr. Priyadarshani Galappaththi, Professor Nimal Senanayake, Dr. Sam Kularatne, Dr. Indika Gawarammana, Dr. Shalini Srirenganathan, Dr.Keerthi Kularatne. This course is hoped to be linked and affiliated to WHO, SEARO, SACTRC, IPCS, APAMT and Australian Universities.

### Board of Study in Venereology

**Chairperson:Dr. Iyanthi Abeywickreme**

**Secretary:Dr. Lilani Rajapaksa**

The Board of Study in Venereology was formed in 2001 with the objective of producing skilled professionals to carry out preventive and curative work in sexually transmitted infections and HIV in Sri Lanka.

The Board conducts a Diploma course over a period of 18 months leading to the examination, Diploma in Venereology. Successful candidates are eligible to proceed to the MD course which consists of supervised training for two years and three months. At present there are 18 trainees in the Diploma Programme and 9 trainees in the MD programme. Two trainees successfully completed the MD examination in 2006 and are awaiting post MD training abroad.

Recent developments include revision of objectives for different components of MD course and revision log books. The curriculum for the Diploma Course was revised and the new curriculum introduced from 2006.

Dr. K.A.M. Ariyaratne and Dr. C.D.Wickramasuriya have been appointed as co-coordinators to facilitate the Diploma and the MD courses respectively.

## Pre and Post Congress Workshops by College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka

College of Pathologists of Sri Lanka has conducted two workshops for post-graduate trainees in pathology of the PGIM. PGIM was the co-sponsors for these workshops.

Pre congress workshop was held on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2006 at the auditorium of Ceylon Hotel School,

Colombo-3, on “Diagnosis of Leukaemia and Lymphoma with immuno-histochemical back up”. The resource person was Professor Kristen Henry from the British Division of the International Academy of Pathology.

Post congress workshop was held on 03<sup>rd</sup> September 2006 at Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, Colombo on

“Dilemmas in Gastrointestinal Pathology”. Professor Para Chandrasoma, Professor of Pathology from University of Southern California, USA together with Professor Chandu De Silva, Professor Janaki Hewawisenthani and Dr. Palitha Rathnayaka were the resource personnel for this workshop.



## Welfare Society

New Office members were elected for the Welfare Society of the PGIM at the meeting held on 01<sup>st</sup> Jan 2007. Various programmes have been planned for the year 2007 with the advice of the Director, PGIM Professor Rezvi Sheriff who is the Patron of the Welfare Society.

The programmes which were planned are social events, educational programmes and annual trip to enhance the friendship, unity and mutual understanding among the staff of the Institute. Mr. Shiran Perera of the PGIM library is the President.



### About PGIM Staff

- Mrs. Chithra Kamaleswaran, Clerk Grade III in the Accounts Branch has resigned from her post to migrate .
- Dr.Indika Liyanage and Dr. Nilupuli Mendis assumed their duties as New Demonstrators attached to the MERC.
- Dr.Harsha Ediriweera is on long leave for three months in Australia.
- Ms. Anuradhi Perera of Academic Branch and Mr. Sathis Samarasinghe were married on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2007.

## Workshop on preparation for MD part 2 Examination on Anaesthesiology

Board of Study Anaesthesiology has organized 5 day

workshop for the PGIM postgraduate trainees, on preparation for MD part 2 Examination on Anaesthesiology. It was held from 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> February 2007, 8.30am to



5.00pm, in the PGIM Auditorium. Dr. P. D. Booker, Consultant Anaesthetist & Clinical tutor, Royal College of Anaesthesiologists, UK was the resource person.

The trainees who participated were given Mock MCQs, short answer questions to be done on their own & then subjected for discussion. This was a valuable opportunity for postgraduate trainees preparing for the part 2 Anaesthesiology Examination. This was highly rated by all who took part.



## Workshop on Microbiology

The Board of Study in Microbiology in collaboration with the MERC, PGIM organized a half-day workshop at the PGIM Auditorium, on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2007.

The objective of the workshop was to review the practical components of the MD Examinations in Clinical Microbiology and in Parasitology. Dr. Indika Karunathilake, resource person for the workshop gave a lecture on “Essential features of assessment tools”.

Following that, there was a Group Discussion among participants. Professor Nilanthi De Silva was the co-ordinator of the workshop.



## Workshop on Laparoscopic Surgery

College of Surgeons and PGIM organized a half day workshop for successful candidates of MS part 1 (held in February 2007) on “Skills in Laparoscopic Surgery” on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2007. This was conducted using teleconferencing facility to provide the trainees with opportunity to join for the programme in Colombo or Galle.

**EDITOR IN CHIEF:**  
Professor Rezvi Sheriff

**EDITORIAL STAFF:**  
Dr. Indika Liyanage  
Dr. Nilupuli Mendis  
Ms. Upamali Wijeratne

### Feedback.....

This is our third newsletter released by **MERC**, PGIM. We would be grateful if you could let us know what you think about the articles you have read in this newsletter, what other articles would you be interested in seeing covered in future newsletters. Finally any other useful suggestions to improve our future issues are also welcome.

**Please write to:**  
Coordinator-In charge  
Newsletter Medical Education and  
Resource Centre  
Email:merc.pgim@yahoo.com

### “First Announcement” 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Scientific Sessions

You may remember the successful 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Academic Sessions we had in July 2005. We announced our next Scientific Session this year and trainers and trainees are requested to get ready with their free papers and posters. [Please note these dates and look out for further announcements.](#)

Deadline for Abstracts :  
20<sup>th</sup> August 2007  
Dates of the Sessions:  
19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> October 2007  
Venue:PGIM  
Cost: later

### Channels of Communication Reminder

The BOM has decided that all communication with PGIM by trainers/trainees/others should be addressed to the Director, PGIM from 1/1/2007.

### Members of the last Board of Management (2004 - 2007)

The PGIM conveys its heartiest gratitude to the former members of the BOM (2004-2007) for their excellent contribution. The members of the last BOM were Professor Susirith Mendis (Chairman), Prof. Lalitha Mendis, Prof. Rezvi Sheriff (Director/PGIM), Dr. J. B. Pieris, Prof. Carlo Fonseka (UGC) , Dr. Tara De Mel (MOE), Mrs. Malani Pieris (MOE), Mr. Ariyaratne Hewage (MOE), Mr. F.R. Maligaspe (MOH), Dr. H. A. P. Kahandaliyanage (MOH), Mr. H. Banduratne (MOF), Ms. N. Madanayake (MOF), Mr. A. Abeygunasekara (MOF), Dr. Ajith Mendis (MOH), Dr. S. T. G. R. De Silva (MOH), Prof. S. P. Lamabadusuriya (FOM-C), Prof. Dulitha Fernando (FOM-C), Prof. Dayasiri Fernando (FOM-SJ), Prof. Narada Warnasuriya (FOM-SJ), Prof. Jayantha Jayawardana (FOM-SJ), Prof. P. L. Ariyananda (FOM-R), Prof. A. S. B. Wijekoon (FOM-P), Dr. C. D. A. Goonasekara (FOM-P), Prof. Indrajee Amarasinghe (FOM-P), Prof. H. J. De Silva (FOM-K), Prof. A. R. Wickramasinghe (FOM-K), Dr. K. Sivapalan (FOM-J), Prof. R. L. Wijeyweera (FODS-P), Prof. Malkanthi Chandrasekara (FOM-Anu), Prof. H. R. Senevirathne (UOC), Prof. Nimal Senanayake (UOP), Prof. A. N. I. Ekanayake (UOP), Prof. V. Arsaratnam (UOJ), Prof. P.S. Wijesinghe (UOK), Prof. D.G.H. De Silva (UOSJ), Prof. Mohan De Silva and nominees from the UGC, Mr. N. Selvakkumaran, Dr. Lucian Jayasuriya, Mr. M. D. D. Pieris, Dr. E. D. Rodrigo, Dr. Deepthi Attygalle, Prof. M. T. M. Jiffry, Dr. S. Sivakumaran, Mr. S. A. C. M. Zuhyle.

### Video Conference on Development of PGIM Library Services

A video conference with GMA branch library was held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2007. Professor Rezvi Sheriff, Director PGIM addressed the gathering from PGIM, at Annual general Meeting of the Galle Medical Association, on “Development of PGIM Library services”. PGIM commenced providing assistance to GMA library in 2005 by providing a set of text books, a computer and a printer with the assistance of WHO and further action is being taken to purchase several more items for the Galle library with PGIM funds.

The services that are planned to be provided to the GMA branch library are:

- All the publications of PGIM library including Sri Lanka Medical Index, Journal articles requested by the Galle library – as photocopies by ordinary mail or as scanned documents via e mail
- Training for the library officer and UNESCO software package CDs/ISIS for library catalogue management. Copies of CDs including downloaded
- MCQs and e journals to facilitate the document delivery a content page service via e mail
- Provide staff

### PGIM Ordinance Review Initiative

The BOM of the PGIM plans a major review of the current Ordinance. Ideas and suggestions would be welcome from our readership. Copies of the Ordinance are available at the MERC office. If anybody is keen please contact Ms. Upamali. A workshop is planned once suggestions are received, with all stakeholders.

### Audio Conference

On 10<sup>th</sup> January 2007, an audio conference was organized by the MERC, PGIM in collaboration with GMA. The lecture was done by Dr.Dujeepa Samarasekara, Medical educationist/ Education Fellow, School of Medicine, National University of Singapore on “Global Trends in Assessing Physician Competence” for postgraduate trainers and trainees in Teaching Hospital, Galle. We plan to extend connectivity to Peradeniya soon.



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