

**Circular Letter No. 021**

My No. PGIM/EX/14/SE/MM (19)  
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine,  
160, Professor Nandadasa Kodagoda Mawatha,  
Colombo 07.  
05<sup>th</sup> March 2019

To: Director/NHSL, Colombo,  
Directors/MSS of Teaching/General Hospitals,  
Provincial Director / Health Services,  
Regional Directors of Health Services,  
Deans of Faculties of Medicine/Medical Sciences,  
Universities of Peradeniya/Colombo/Jaffna/Ruhuna/Kelaniya,  
Sri Jayewardenepura/Rajarata

**SELECTION EXAMINATION FOR POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN  
PALLIATIVE MEDICINE – MAY 2019**

01. The above examination is scheduled to commence on **06<sup>th</sup> May 2019**.
02. Applications are invited by me from individuals in the state and non-state sectors possessing the following requirements to sit the Selection Examination for enrolment to the training programme in Postgraduate Diploma in Palliative Medicine.
  - a) A medical degree registered with the Sri Lanka Medical Council.
  - b) Satisfactory completion of internship acceptable to the Sri Lanka Medical Council.
  - c) Satisfactory completion of one year of post-internship service in a university/ public sector/ private sector institution in Sri Lanka acceptable to the PGIM.
  - d) The criteria prescribe in paragraph (a) to (c) must have been satisfied by the applicant at the date of closure of applications (05<sup>th</sup> April 2019) for the Selection examination for the Postgraduate Diploma in Palliative Medicine.
  - e) Where a shortfall has occurred due to any reasons including sickness, maternity or other leave, the applicant should complete such a shortfall to be eligible to apply for the selection examination.

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03. The applicants to be eligible for enrolment to the training programme should pass the selection examination. The current format of the selection examination for the perusal of applicants is described in the prospectus 2015 and relevant examination documents which are available at the PGIM.
04. The selection examination will consist of a MCQ paper, which will comprise 40 MCQs of the multiple true/ false type, to be answered in 120 minutes (02 hours) Negative marks will apply only within the question and will not be carried over. Questions on Basic Sciences, Pharmacology, Psychiatry, Medicine, Surgery, Paediatrics and Oncology relevant to Palliative care, based on undergraduate knowledge and expected clinical experience will be Included.
05. A candidate must obtain a minimum of 50% of the overall mark in order to pass the Selection Examination and qualify for selection. Final selection will be according to the order of merit based on the overall mark obtained at the Selection Examination.
06. Only a maximum of **15 candidates** from the **Ministry of Health (MOH)** who pass the Selection Examination will be enrolled in the training programme. Placements will be made purely in the order of merit. The details are available at the Examination Branch office of the PGIM and on the PGIM website under "General Regulations and Guidelines 2019". The **15<sup>th</sup> MOH candidate's marks will be taken as a cut-off line and the candidates in sections 8, 9, 10 and 11 will have to obtain a mark similar to this or above to be offered a place in the training programme.**
07. The final number of available training placements will be determined based on the total number of candidates above the cut-off line.
08. All candidates attached to **Other Government Ministries who pass the selection examination and "who are above the cut-off line"** will be enrolled in the training programme in the order of merit.
09. All candidates from the **Non-State Sector** who pass the selection examination and **"who are above the cut-off line"** will be enrolled in the training programme in the order of merit.
10. All candidates from the **State Universities** who pass the selection examination and **"who are above the cut-off line"** will be enrolled in the training programme in the order of merit.
11. All candidates from the **Armed Forces** who pass the selection examination and **"who are above the cut-off line"** will be enrolled in the training programme in the order of merit.
12. Following the examination and release of results the above numbers shall not be changed nor shall requests for such changes be entertained.



13. Each year only the scheduled Selection Examination in the approved examination calendar shall be held. No repeat or additional examinations will be held.
14. The allocation of training units will be done as described in “General Regulations & Guideline – 2019” and according to the approved procedure by the PGIM based on merit. The allocated training unit/s shall not be changed for personal reasons.
15. When a candidate is selected, he/she should register in the same year. If this is not done another eligible candidate will be selected. And the candidate, who refused, will not be permitted to register in the programme in a subsequent year with the same results unless a valid medical certificate from a consultant acceptable to the PGIM is submitted.
16. For all fulltime training programmes fulltime release from Ministry of Health is a prerequisite for enrolment. When relevant it may be necessary to sign a bond before such enrolment if such a requirement has been decided by the Ministry of Health, other Government Ministries or University or University.
17. The prescribed fees for the examination for candidates in the state sector are as follows:

(a) Application fee	- Rs. 2,500.00 (non refundable)
(b) Registration fee	- Rs. 6,000.00 (non refundable)
(c) Examination fee	- Rs. 16,000.00

(candidates from non-state sector will be charged 50% more of the above listed fees)

**Only online payments through the PGIM online portal will be accepted**

18. The application form could be downloaded from our website [www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk](http://www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk).
19. Completed applications with **every cage duly filled** should be forwarded through the Head of Department, confirming that the applicants if selected would be released for postgraduate training in the PGIM. The applications should reach the Asst. Registrar/Examinations, Postgraduate Institute of Medicine, 160, Professor Nandadasa Kodagoda Mawatha, Colombo 07 on or before **05<sup>th</sup> April 2019**. The envelope should be marked “**Application for selection examination for Postgraduate Diploma in Palliative Medicine.**” at the top left hand corner. **Incomplete applications and late applications will not be considered under any circumstances.**
20. The selected candidates should report to the training unit allocated to him/her within one month on receipt of the letter of selection to the training programme and allocation to the training unit.
21. Please bring the contents of the Circular Letter to the notice of all medical officers concerned in your department/division/faculty.

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22. Please refer the new regulations laid down by Ministry of Health regarding release of Medical Officers of Department of Health in MOH website – [www.health.gov.lk](http://www.health.gov.lk).
23. The results will be valid and official after confirmation by the Senate of the University.
24. The candidates will be issued an “**Examination Feedback Form**” with the admission documents. Feedback in Part II should be limited to concerns, if any, regarding the conduct of the examination (e.g. perceived biases, discriminatory behavior, harassment, intimidation) and NOT regarding the format or content of the examination. The form should be sent back to Director/PGIM under confidential cover **within 48 hours after conclusion of the examination. No concerns regarding the examination will be entertained after 48 hours of conclusion of the examination or following the release of results** nor will these be investigated by the PGIM.
25. Candidates are requested to visit the PGIM website for further updated details.

*H. J. Silva*

Professor H Janaka De Silva  
**Director, PGIM**

- Cc:
1. Secretary, Ministry of Health & Nutrition.
  2. Director General of Health Services.
  3. DDGHS/Medical Services.
  4. Commanders of Armed Forces
  5. Registrar, Sri Lanka Medical Council.
  6. Secretary of Specialty Board in Molecular Medicine.
  7. Hony. Secretary, GMOA.