

**Circular Letter No. 122 / 2019**

My No. PGIM/EX/8/PD/His ('19)  
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine  
160, Prof. Nandadasa Kodagoda Mawatha  
Colombo 7  
31 October 2019

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

**POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN HISTOPATHOLOGY EXAMINATION- DECEMBER  
2019**

1. The above examination is scheduled to commence on **9 December 2019**. The examination will be held in Colombo

2. Applications are invited by me from medical officers possessing the following requirements to sit the above examination.

- (a) Have passed the Course in Basic Laboratory Sciences (CBLs) Examination;
- (b) Have satisfactorily completed the 2 year training period in Histopathology at a training center approved by the Board of Study in Pathology;
- (c) A minimum of 80% attendance during the training period; and
- (d) Submission of a record book confirming the satisfactory completion of the training programme in each module certified by the Supervisor/Co-ordinator and Tutor of the respective Training Centres with the application.

3. The examination consists of 02 components as follows :

(a) **Theory**

Each theory paper I & II shall consist of 4 questions.  
One of the 4 questions will be a Structured Essay Question.  
Each paper is to be answered within 3 hours. Candidates should answer all questions.

(b) **Practical**

1. Surgical Pathology - 20 slides. Duration 3 hours.
2. Cytology (8) and Special Stains (2) - 10 Slides. Duration 2 hours

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4. A close marking system is used. For each question in the two theory papers and each slide / case in the surgical pathology and cytology / special stain practicals one of the following grades will be given.

- M - Merit
- P - Pass
- B - Borderline
- F - Fail

5. To pass the examination each candidate must obtain –

- i. a minimum of **Five M or P grades** and **two B grades** for the two theory papers (A candidate can afford to fail in only one question)  
**and ;**
- ii. a minimum of **15 M or P grades** for the Surgical Pathology and Cytology/Special stain components taken together (30 slides/cases)

To make the merit order a score will be given to each grade. (4 for M, 3 for P, 2 for B and 1 for attempted but fail)

6. Past question papers are available for sale in the PGIM Library.

7. Candidates who are eligible to sit the Postgraduate Diploma examination are required to be present for the first scheduled examination after completion of the training programme. If a candidate does not apply or does not sit the first scheduled examination or subsequent scheduled examinations for reasons not acceptable to the Board of Study, the examinations will be counted as attempts.

8. Please note that **candidates are allowed 6 attempts only in the Postgraduate Diploma which must be completed within a period of 8 years from the date of the first examination.** This requirement will not apply to those candidates who have sat the Selection/Part I examinations before 1998. However after failing the fifth attempt the candidate should undergo a minimum period of one year further training before permitted the sixth attempt.

9. The prescribed fees for the examination shall be as follows:

- a) Application fee - Rs. 2,500.00 (non refundable)
- b) Registration fee - Rs. 6,000.00 (non refundable)
- b) Examination fees - Rs.34,500.00

**Only online payment through the PGIM online portal will be accepted by the PGIM.**  
(candidates from non-state sector will be charged 50% more of the above listed fees)

10. The Application form could be download from our website [www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk](http://www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk)

11. Applications with **every cage duly filled** should be forwarded to the Senior Assistant Registrar/ Examinations, Postgraduate Institute of Medicine, No. 160, Prof. Nandadasa Kodagoda Mawatha, Colombo 7 on or before **22 November 2019. Incomplete applications and late applications will not be considered under any circumstances.**

12. Post-MD trainees should commence post-MD overseas training within two (02) years after the expected date of completing local post-MD training. Any delay will be added to the date of effective Board Certification.
13. Post-MD trainees who delay commencing overseas post-MD training by more than four (04) years after the expected date of completing local post-MD training will have their trainee status terminated.
14. The candidates who shall commence the Post MD (Senior Registrar) training after August 2011 should pass the Pre-Board Certification Assessment to be eligible for Board Certification. The details are available at the PGIM for perusal.
15. Please refer the new regulations laid down by Ministry of Health regarding release of Medical Officers of Department of Health website – [www.health.gov.lk/](http://www.health.gov.lk/)
16. Please bring the contents of the Circular to the notice of all medical officers concerned in your department/division/faculty.
17. There shall be **no repeat or additional examinations** which are not scheduled in the approved examination calendar year 2019.
18. The results will be valid and official after confirmation by the Senate of the University.
19. 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 (eg. perceived biases, discriminatory behaviour, 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.
20. The candidate who pass the Selection Examination and are selected for the MD programme should undergo the Professionalism & Ethics in Medical Practice Strand organized by the PGIM. Please note that this is compulsory for all MD trainees and should be completed within the first two years of pre-MD training. A certificate will be issued to trainees who complete this strand successfully.
20. Candidates are requested to visit the PGIM website [www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk](http://www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk) for further updates.

Professor Senaka Rajapakse  
Deputy Director / PGIM

Professor Senaka Rajapakse  
MD, FRCP, FACP  
Deputy Director  
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine  
University of Colombo

- Copies:
1. Secretary, Ministry of Healthcare & Nutrition
  17. Director General of Health Services
  18. Registrar, Sri Lanka Medical Council
  19. Secretary, of Board of Study in Pathology
  20. Secretary, Sri Lanka College of Pathologists
  21. Hony. Secretary, GMOA.
  22. PGIM Library
  23. PGIM Branch Library, Kandy