

**Circular Letter No. 109 / 2020**

PGIM/EX/2/MD/Med (21/1)  
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine,  
160, Professor Nandadasa Kodagoda, Mw  
Colombo 7.  
04 November 2020

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  
Jayewardenepura,

**MD IN GENERAL MEDICINE EXAMINATION -FEBRUARY/MARCH 2021**

1. The above examination will commence on **9<sup>th</sup> February, 2021.**
2. Applications are invited by me from medical officers possessing the following requirements to sit the above examination.
  - (a) Satisfactory completion of the 30-month pre-MD training programme, with documentary proof of same, including the satisfactory evaluation from all respective supervisors/trainers (altogether 12 supervisors/trainers).
  - (b) Satisfactory performance at the RITA.
  - (c) Submission of the Casebook with a pass rating.
  - (d) Submission of the up-to-date, completed Portfolio for Stage 1.
  - (e) **Certificate of the Professionalism and Ethics in Medical Practice Strand (organized by the PGIM) should be submitted along with the application.**
  - (f) Any other requirements stipulated by the PGIM.

Note :- a) A minimum of 80% attendance at organized lecture courses, modules, practicals, field work, and satisfactory completion of prescribed clinical training are requirements to be granted permission to sit examinations.

**Please submit photocopies of RITA assessments and portfolio viva assessment as a separate set of documents with the application.**

3. The MD examination consists of 4 components. The written component, the clinical component, the observed history-taking/communication skills (OHT/CS) component, and the viva voce component.

**3.1 The written component –**

Paper 1: Structured essay questions (SEQs) - 2 hours  
Paper 2: Case histories - 2½ hours  
Paper 3: Data interpretation. - 2½ hours  
Paper 4: Slide interpretation - 1 hour

**To pass the written component, the candidate must obtain a minimum of 50% of the total 100 and secure a minimum of 40% in each of the 4 subcomponents.**

The clinical and oral components of the examination will be held in **March 2021**.

Note : Candidates who obtain 50% or more in the written component will be given exemption from sitting the theory paper for a maximum number of four (04) more attempts or for a maximum period of two (02) years whichever is the earlier, from the date of commencement of the examination where the candidate passes the theory component.

### **3.2 The clinical component:**

The clinical component consists of the following 2 subcomponents: the long case and the short cases.

3.2.1 The long case: 1 patient, 45 minutes/ discussion 30 minutes

3.2.2 The short cases: 5 stations, 10 minutes in each station

**3.3 The observed history-taking/communication skills component :** 2 stations, 20 minutes each.

**3.4 The viva voce component:** 40 minutes duration, 2 panels

### **The criteria to pass the MD Examination are as follows:**

- Overall mark must be 50% or more.
  - Minimum of 50% in the theory component, with at least 40% in each of its subcomponents.
  - Minimum of 50% in the clinical component, with a minimum of 40% in the long case and a minimum of 50% in the short cases.
  - Minimum of 40% in the observed history-taking/communication skills component.
  - Minimum of 40% in the viva component.
4. Candidates shall refer to the relevant prospectus for details of the examination.
  5. Past question papers are available in the PGIM Library [www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk](http://www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk)
  6. When a Trainee is unsuccessful at one of the prerequisites/module examination/assessments during pre MD training, and is therefore not be eligible to sit for the next scheduled MD Examination, the said MD Examination shall be counted as an attempt.
  7. Candidates who are eligible to sit the MD in General Medicine 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 examination for reasons not acceptable to the Board of Study the examinations will be counted as attempts.
  8. Please note that **candidates are allowed only 6 attempts at the MD examination which must be completed within a period of 8 years from the date of the first**

**examination.** However, after failing the fifth attempt the candidate should undergo a minimum period of one year further training before permitted the sixth attempt. These requirements will not apply to those candidates who have sat the Selection/Part I examinations before 1998.

9. Candidates are also informed that the Board of Study will allocate Senior Registrar appointments in General Medicine and subspecialties listed in the prospectus (according to merit and the requirements of the Ministry of Health). In addition the subspecialty of Pharmacology / Therapeutics and Critical Care will be available. The requirements of the Ministry of Health shall be confirmed only after the release of the results. Such numbers shall be conveyed to the successful candidates at or before the Allocation Committee Meeting.
10. The allocation training units will be done as described in “General Regulation and Guidelines – 2020 and according to the approved procedure by the PGIM based on merit. The allocated training units shall not be changed for personal reasons.
11. 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 effective date of Board Certification. 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.
12. There should be no delay in submitting the dissertation or research report within the stipulated period as prescribed in the prospectus. If there is delay, the Board Certification will be delayed accordingly.
13. The minimum duration of Post MD training required to be eligible for Board Certification shall be one year local and one year overseas. However the duration may be more than two years in certain specialties and the information is available in the prospectus.
14. The candidates who shall commence the Post MD (Senior Registrar) training after 1<sup>st</sup> 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. Following the completion of prescribed requirements for Board Certification including overseas training the prospective trainee applies for Board Certification with the relevant documents within one month following the completion of such requirements. If this is not followed, the date of Board Certification will be delayed.
16. The prescribed fees for the examination, are as follows :-
  - (a) Application fee - Rs. 3,000.00 (non refundable)
  - (b) Registration fee - Rs. 6,000.00 (non refundable)
  - (c) Examination fee - Rs. 59,000.00(Private candidates will be charged 50% more on each fee of the PGIM)

The application form also could be downloaded from our website [www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk](http://www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk)  
Candidates are required to pay **Rs. 3,000.00** application fee, **Rs. 6000.00** the registration fee and **Rs. 29,500.00** for the examination entry fee for the written component in the first instance.

Those who qualify to proceed for the rest of the examination, ie. Clinical and Oral components will have to pay the balance examination fee of **Rs. 29,500.00**.

***Only online payment through the PGIM online portal will be accepted by the PGIM.***

17. The applications should reach the Assistant Registrar/Examinations, Postgraduate Institute of Medicine, 160, Professor Nandadasa Kodagoda Mawatha on or before **8<sup>th</sup> January, 2021**. The envelope should be marked **“Application for the MD in General Medicine Examination”** at the top left hand corner. **Incomplete applications and late applications will not be considered under any circumstances.**
18. 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).
19. There shall be no repeat or additional examinations which are not scheduled in the approved examination calendar for the year 2020.
20. The results will be valid and official after confirmation of the Senate of the University.
21. 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.
22. Please bring the contents of the Circular Letter to the notice of all medical officers concerned in your department/division/faculty.
23. Candidates are requested to visit the PGIM website (<http://pgim.cmb.ac.lk>) for further updates.

  
**Professor Senaka Rajapakse**  
MBBS, MD, FRCP, FRCPE, FCCP, FACP, FNAS(SL)  
Director  
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine  
University of Colombo

Professor Senaka Rajapaksa  
Director, PGIM

- Copy 1. Secretary, Ministry of Healthcare & Nutrition  
2. Director General of Health Services.  
3. Registrar, Sri Lanka Medical Council.  
4. Secretary of Board of Study in Medicine.  
5. Secretary, College of Physicians of Sri Lanka.  
6. Hony. Secretary, GMOA.  
7. PGIM Library  
8. PGIM Branch Library, Peradeniya.