

**Circular Letter No.32/2023**

My No. PGIM/EX/13/SE/PGD/Med/Micro ('23)  
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine,  
160, Prof. Nandadasa Kodagoda Mw,  
Colombo 7.  
10<sup>th</sup> April 2023

To : Deputy Director General/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/Rajarata/Eastern/Sabaragamuwa/Wayamba/KDU  
Director/MRI.

**SELECTION EXAMINATION FOR POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MEDICAL  
MICROBIOLOGY – JUNE 2023**

1. The above examination will commence on **15<sup>th</sup> June 2023**.
2. Applications are invited by me from medical officers in the state and non-state sectors possessing the following requirements to sit the Selection Examination for Postgraduate Diploma in Medical Microbiology.
  - (a) A medical degree registrable with the Sri Lanka Medical Council, and
  - (b) Satisfactory completion of internship acceptable to the Sri Lanka Medical Council, and
  - (c) Satisfactory completion of one year of full-time post internship in medical practice in University/Public Sector Institution/Private sector in Sri Lanka acceptable to the PGIM as at the date of closure of applications, ie. **16<sup>th</sup> May 2023**.

**Note:**

The criteria prescribed in paragraph (a) to (c) must have been satisfied by the applicants by the date of closure of applications, provided that where a short-fall has occurred due to any reasons including sick, maternity or other leave, the doctor concerned should complete such shortfall in order to become eligible to apply for the Selection Examination.

3. The applicants to be eligible for enrolment to the training programme should pass the Selection Examination. The current format of the selection examination is described in the Prospectus 2013 and relevant examination documents which are available on the PGIM web site.
4. The selection examination shall consist of Two (2) components, an Essay Paper and a Multiple-Choice Question Paper. The MCQ Paper which has 30 MCQs of multiple true/false type to be answered in 90 minutes, includes questions on Microbiology and Parasitology at undergraduate level.
5. A minimum of 50% of the overall mark should be obtained by a candidate to qualify for selection for the training programme.

6. **Up to a maximum 12<sup>th</sup> candidate** 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 on the PGIM website under “General Regulations and Guidelines 2023”. The **12<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.**
7. The final number of available training placements will be determined based on the total number of candidates above the cut-off line.
8. All candidates from **State Universities** who are above the cut- off line will be enrolled in the training programme in order of the merit
9. All candidates from the **Armed Forces (including Police)** who are above the cut- off line will be enrolled in the training programme in order of the merit.
10. All candidates attached to **Other Government Ministries** who are above the cut- off line will be enrolled in the training programme in order of the merit.
11. All **Non-State Sector** candidates who are above the cut- off line will be enrolled in the training programme. They will be placed below the order of merit for candidates from the MOH, Other Government Ministries, State Universities and Armed Forces (including Police) based on the merit within the non-state sector category.
12. 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 & Guidelines for trainees - 2023” 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. A fulltime release from the candidate’s current employer—i.e. Ministry of Health/ Other Government Ministries, Universities or by the Armed Forces- is a prerequisite for enrollment in all fulltime training programmes. It may be necessary to sign a bond before such enrollment if it is required by the candidate’s employer.
17. The permitted number of attempts of an eligible candidate at a particular PGD selection Examination is unlimited. However, in order to proceed for the MD after being successful at the Postgraduate Diploma examination, the candidate should have passed the Selection Examination for Postgraduate Diploma within 6 attempts. This regulation comes in to effect from 30.09.2020

18. 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. The trainee status of trainees will be terminated in those who delay commencing overseas post-MD training by more than four (04) years after the expected date of completing local post-MD training
19. There should be no delay in submitting the research report within the stipulated period as prescribed in the prospectus. Any delay will be added to the effective date of Board certification.
20. The trainees must, within one (1) calendar month of satisfactory completion of the prescribed requirements, apply for Board Certification. All relevant documents must be submitted with the application. Failure to do so will result in a delay of effective date of Board Certification
21. The candidates should pass the Pre-Board Certification Assessment to be eligible for Board Certification. The details are available on the PGIM website.
22. The prescribed fees for the examination for candidates from the state sector are as follows:

(a) Registration fee	- Rs.	12,000.00 (non-refundable)
(b) Application Fee	- Rs.	5,500.00 (non-refundable)
(c) Examination fees	- Rs.	30,000.00

Candidates from non-state sector will be charged 50% more of the above specified fees

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

23. The application form can be downloaded from [www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk](http://www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk).
24. The relevant information of the training programme is described in the Prospectus and other relevant documents.
25. All examination applications and other documents will be collected through a Google form <https://forms.gle/ATQsu9skocFChqn28> on or before **16<sup>th</sup> May 2023**. All applicants should have a Gmail account to access the Google form. The exam application with all relevant documents must be attached as a single pdf document since this portal does not allow uploading of multiple documents. **Please note that incomplete, handwritten, late submission and application sent via email will not be accepted.**
26. The selected candidates should report to the training unit allocated to him/her within one month of receipt of the letter of selection to the training programme and allocation to the training unit.
27. Please refer the new regulations laid down by Ministry of Health regarding release of Medical Officers of Department of Health—[www.health.gov.lk/](http://www.health.gov.lk/)
28. The results will be valid and official after confirmation by the Senate of the University.

29. The candidates who will be selected to the MD (Medical Microbiology) training 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.
30. The orientation programme on ‘PGIM library resources and services’ is mandatory for all postgraduate trainees who enter PGIM training programmes. Please refer [library.pgim.cmb.ac.lk/](http://library.pgim.cmb.ac.lk/) for more information.
31. 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 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.
32. A trainee following a PG Certificate or PD Diploma or MSc or MD programme shall not be permitted to sit another selection examination for a PG Certificate or PG Diploma or MSc or MD. If the trainee leaves the course before completion of a programme/course of study, he/she shall not be permitted to sit for another selection examination for a minimum period of two years from the date of leaving the programme/course of study. This rule shall not apply for online and part time courses.
33. Candidates are requested to visit the PGIM website ([www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk](http://www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk)).
34. Please bring the contents of this Circular Letter to the notice of all medical officers concerned in your department/division/faculty.

  
Professor Chandanie Wanigatunge  
MBBS, MD, FCCP, FRCP(Ed), FRCP  
Deputy Director  
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine  
University of Colombo

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Deputy Director, PGIM