

**Circular Letter No .05.2026**

My No. PGIM/EX/7/SE/Derm (26)  
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine,  
160, Prof Nandadasa Kodagoda Mawatha,  
Colombo 7.  
16<sup>th</sup> January 2026

To : Deputy Director General /NHSL,

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/Eastern/Rajarata/Sabaragamuwa/Wayamba/ KDU

**SELECTION EXAMINATION FOR MD IN DERMATOLOGY – MARCH/APRIL 2026**  
**(Prospectus 2014)**

1. The above examination is scheduled to commence on **04<sup>th</sup> March 2026**.
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 enrolment to the in-service training programme in Dermatology.
  - (a) Hold 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 in medical practice in a University/Public Sector Institution/ Private sector in Sri Lanka acceptable to the PGIM as at the date of closure of applications, **06<sup>th</sup> February 2026**.
  - (d) Any other requirement/s stipulated by the Board of Study that has/have been approved by the Board of Management.

**Note:**

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

3. The applicants should pass the selection examination to be eligible for enrolment to the training programme. The current format of the Selection Examination is described in the Dermatology Prospectus, 2014.
4. The Selection Examination consists of two parts.

**Part I**

- MCQ Paper of 3 hours duration which consists of 60 questions of the true /false type.
- 30 questions in Dermatology and Basic Sciences relevant to Dermatology
- 30 questions in General Medicine.

## **Part II**

- **Projected materials** -20 questions based on in Dermatology and General Medicine.

The Part I of examination (MCQ Paper) will be held on **04<sup>th</sup> March 2026**. Only candidates who have scored 50% or more in each component will be eligible to proceed to Part II of the Examination. The Part II of examination will be held on **31<sup>st</sup> March 2026**.

05. **Only a maximum of 08 candidates** from the **Ministry of Health (MOH)** who pass the Selection Examination will be enrolled in the training programme. Placements will be made purely on the order of merit. The details are available on the PGIM website under “General Regulations and Guidelines 2026 ”. The **8 MOH candidate 's marks will be taken as a cut -off line and the candidates in sections 07, 08, 09 and 10 will have to obtain a mark similar to this or above to be offered a place in the training programme.**
06. The final number of available training placements will be determined based on the total number of candidates above the cut-off line.
07. All candidates attached to **Other Government Ministries** who pass the selection examination and are above the cut-off line will be enrolled in the training programme in the order of merit.
08. All candidates attached to the **State Universities** who pass the selection examination and are above the cut-off line will be enrolled in the training programme in the order of merit.
09. All candidates from the **Armed Forces (including Police)** who pass the selection examination and are above the cut-off line will be enrolled in the training programme in order of the merit.
10. **All Non – State Sector** candidates who pass the selection examination and 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.
11. The above numbers shall not be changed, nor shall requests for such changes be entertained following the examination and after the release of results.
12. Each year only the scheduled Selection Examination in the approved examination calendar will be held. **No repeat or additional examinations will be held.**
13. The allocation of training units will be done as described in “General Regulation and Guidelines 2026” which is available on the PGIM web site: <https://pgim.cmb.ac.lk/> The allocated training unit /s shall not be changed for personal reasons . The number of available subspecialty training vacancies offered for post MD training, if any, will be determined based on the vacancy list provided by the MOH prior to the allocation.

14. The permitted number of attempts of an eligible candidate at a particular MD Selection Examination is limited to six (06). However, candidates who have already exhausted four (04) or more attempts would be allowed only two (02) more attempts. Those who have sat less than four (04) attempts would be allowed up to a maximum total six(06) attempts. This regulation comes into effect from 27.05.2020.
15. When a candidate is selected, he/she should register in the same year. If a candidate fails to do so, another eligible candidate will be selected. Any candidate who refuses to register in the current year, will not be permitted to register in the programme in a subsequent year with the same results.
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. 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
18. 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.
19. The minimum duration of post MD training required to be eligible for Board Certification should be one year local & one year overseas. However, the duration may be more than two years in certain specialties and the information is available in the prospectus.
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:

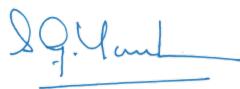
(a) Registration fee	- Rs	17,500.00 (non-refundable)
(b) Application Fee	- Rs.	9,500.00 (non-refundable)
(c) Examination fees	- Rs.	80,000.00

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

**Note that the only payments made through the PGIM online portal will be accepted**

23. At the first instance candidates are required to pay Rs. 17,500/= the registration fee, 9,500/= application fee and Rs.34,500/- the examination fee for the MCQ paper. Those who qualify from the MCQ Examination will be required to pay the balance examination fee of Rs.45,500/- in order to proceed to the rest of the examination.
24. The application form can be downloaded from <https://pgim.cmb.ac.lk/>
25. The relevant information regarding the training programme, and requirements for Board Certification are detailed in the Prospectus 2014 amendments and other relevant documents published in the PGIM website.
26. All examination applications and other documents will be collected through a Google form <https://forms.gle/CHTx27jNxnEas8DW7> on or before **06<sup>th</sup> February 2026**. 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.**
27. 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.
28. 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/)
29. The results will be valid and official after confirmation by the Senate of the University.
30. 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.
31. The Candidate who pass the selection Examination and are selected for the MD programme should undergo the Professionalism and ethics 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.
32. The orientation programme on ‘PGIM library resources and services’ is mandatory for all postgraduate trainees who enter PGIM training programmes. Please refer <https://library.pgim.cmb.ac.lk/> for more information

33. . A trainee following a PG Certificate or PG 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.
34. Candidates are requested to visit the PGIM website <https://pgim.cmb.ac.lk/> for further information.
35. Please bring the contents of this Circular Letter to the notice of all medical officers concerned in your department/division/faculty.

  
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Director  
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine  
University of Colombo  
Professor Surangi G Yasawardene  
**Director, PGIM**