Circular Letter No. 88/2026

My No. PGIM/EX/13/MD/Med/Viro (26)
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine,
160, Prof. Nandadasa Kodagoda Mawatha,
Colombo 7.
28th September 2026

To: Deputy Director General/NHSL,
Directors/MS 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

Director/MRI,

MD (MEDICAL VIROLOGY) EXAMINATION – NOVEMBER 2026
(PROSPECTUS 2013)

1. The above examination will commence on **19 November 2026.**

2. Applications are invited by me from medical officers possessing the following requirements to sit the MD (Medical Virology) examination. Candidates must -

(a) Show at least 80% attendance in each of the following training components -
   (i) Hospital Microbiology Laboratory appointments
   (ii) Infection Control training workshop
   (iii) Virology appointments at MRI
   (iv) Each special appointment
   (v) Completion of Research project and submission of the dissertation before a stipulated date
   (vi) Tutorials in Medical Virology and Medical Microbiology
(b) Obtain a satisfactory progress report from each hospital laboratory trainer and from each laboratory trainer at MRI
(c) Submit 2 sets of Peer Team Rating forms.
(d) Submit a duly completed portfolio.
(e) Submit the dissertation.
(f) Submit the certificate of the Professionalism & Ethics in Medical Practice Strand conducted by the PGIM.

3. The examination shall consist of three parts with six components, as set out below:
Part 1 - Theory with two components - Written Paper I and Paper II
Part 2 - Practical with two components - Laboratory examination 1 and 2
Part 3 - Oral with two components - Portfolio and Dissertation.

4. To pass the MD in Microbiology Examination, a candidate is required to obtain the following:

(a) A total average of a minimum of **60%** or more for the entire examination; **AND**
(b) A minimum of 50% or more for the Practical part of the examination (Laboratory examinations 1 and 2);

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AND

(c) Obtain a minimum of 50% or more for the theory part of the examination (Written Papers I and II)

5. Candidates shall refer to the relevant prospectus for details of the examination.

6. Candidates who are eligible to sit the MD 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.

7. 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.

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8. The allocation of post MD training units will be done as described in "General Regulations & Guidelines – 2026" and according to the approved procedure by the PGIM based on merit. The allocated training units shall not be changed for personal reasons.

9. 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.

10. There should be no delay in submitting the dissertation or research report within the stipulated period as prescribed in the prospectus. If there is a delay, the Board Certification will be delayed accordingly.

11. 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.

12. The candidates should pass the Pre-Board Certification Assessment to be eligible for Board Certification. The details are available at the PGIM for perusal.

13. 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.

14. The prescribed fees for the examination, shall be as follows :-

(a) Application fee	- Rs. 9,500.00 (Non refundable)
(b) Registration fee	- Rs. 17,500.00 (Non refundable)
(c) Examination fees	- Rs. 152,000.00
(d) Dissertation assessment fee	- Rs. 19,000.00 (Non refundable)

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

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

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15. The application form also could be downloaded from our website www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk.

16. All examination applications and other documents are collected through a Google Form**,** https://forms.gle/qFCPEGpxM4v7j8eJ9 or before **30th October 2026.** Candidates have to use the email accounts created by the PGIM 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 submissions and applications sent via email will not be accepted.**

17. Each year only the scheduled examination in the approved examination calendar shall be held. No repeat or additional examinations will be held.

18. 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.

19. The results will be valid and official after confirmation by the Senate of the University.

20. Candidates are requested to visit the PGIM website www.pgim.cmb.ac.lk for further updates.

21. Please refer the new regulations laid down by Ministry of Health regarding release of medical officers of Department of Health in MOH web site - www.health.gov.lk/.

22. Please bring the contents of the Circular Letter to the notice of all medical officers concerned in your department/division/faculty.

Professor Surangi G. Yasawardene
MBBS, PhD
Director
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine
University of Colombo

Professor Surangi G. Yasawardene
Director, PGIM